JEWISH LIFE

in Washtenaw County 2008-2009

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Contents

The year in review 2
The Jewish Calendar 7
Keeping kosher in Ann Arbor 62
Guide 2008 advertisers 63
Organization contacts 64

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Jewish Community Center of Washtenaw County 13
Jewish Community Foundation of Washtenaw County 13
Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County 11
Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor 9
Jewish Historical Society 16

CONGREGATIONS AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan 17
Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah 17
Beth Israel Congregation 18
Congregation Beth Chabad 27
Jewish Cultural Society 28
Pardes Hannah 32
Temple Beth Emeth 33

OLDER ADULT PROGRAMS

SPICE of Life 37

ADULT ACTIVITIES

Brit Tzedek V'shalom 38
Chaverim B'shirim 39
Florence Melton School 19
Interfaith Hospitality Network 39
Israeli Dancing Group 39
JCC Yiddish Group 40
Jewish Ann Arbor Singles 40
Jewish Professionals of Ann Arbor 40
Michigan Coalition for the Environment and Jewish Life 40
Mosaic Outdoor Club 41
Raoul Wallenberg Committee 43
Yidish Tish 41

MEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

Men's Club, Beth Israel Congregation 43
Temple Beth Emeth Brotherhood 43

WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah 43
Mikvah Israel 44
Women's League, Beth Israel Congregation 44
Sisterhood, Temple Beth Emeth 44
Women's American ORT 45
Women's Rosh Chodesh Group 45
Yad Shoshana 45
Zeitouna 45

CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS

Hillel Foundation, EMU 46
Hillel Foundation, U-M 47
U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies 51
U-M Chabad House Student Center 50
U-M Hebrew and Jewish Cultural Studies 51
U-M Judaica Collection 52
U-M Jean and Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies 52

EDUCATION

Beth Israel Education Department 20
Hebrew Day School 53
Jewish Cultural School 31
Jewish Learning Institute 55
Keshet Ann Arbor 55
Reconstructionist Havurah Religious School 17
T.E.A.C.H. 56
Temple Beth Emeth Religious School 34
Torah Enrichment Program 56
CD-ROM Judaic Classics Library 57
Jewish Educators Council of Ann Arbor 57

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Bat Mitzvah Club 57
Beth Israel Youth Programs 24
B'nai B'rith Youth Organization 57
Camp Gan Israel 57
Gan Yeladim Enrichment 58
Habonim Dror 59
JCC Early Childhood Center 14
JCC Camp Raanana 15
JCC Youth Programs 14
Temple Beth Emeth Youth Groups 36
Young Judaea 59

DETROIT AGENCIES

Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith 60
Holocaust Memorial Center 62
Israel Bonds 60
Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit 61
Jewish Community Council of Metropolitan Detroit 60
Jewish Family Service 61
Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit 62
Jewish Vocational Service 61

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2935 BIRCH HOLLOW DRIVE • ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48108
734 / 971-1800 • FAX: 734 / 971-1801 • EMAIL: WJN.EDITOR@GMAIL.COM
WEBSITE: WWW.WASHTENAWJEWISHNEWS.ORG

Publisher and Editor: Susan Kravitz Ayer

Cover Design: Susan Ayer and Dennis Platte

Design and Layout: Dennis Platte

Advertising Manager: Gordon White

Mailing Committee: Ruth Ankiewicz, Beverly Bixler, Ruth Breslaw, Ethel Ellis, Steve Fishman, Esther Goldman, Fran Goldman, Betty Hammond, Jayne Harary, Esther Horwitz, Doris Jamron, Marilyn Krimm, Doris Miller, Bob and Sophie Mordis, Esther Perlman, Irwin Pollack, Lotte Rosenbaum, Esther Rubin, Sol Saginaw, Sarah Shoem, Nell Stern

Circulation: 5,000
Subscriptions:
$14 bulk rate inside Washtenaw County;
$18 first-class subscription

Jewish Life in Washtenaw County is a publication of the *Washtenaw Jewish News*, a free and independent monthly newspaper. It is registered as a non-profit Michigan corporation. Opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of its editors or staff. The *WJN* is supported by the donations of the businesses appearing within these pages.

If you would like extra copies of this publication, please send a check for $5, plus $3 for shipping and handling to the *WJN*, 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108.

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5768: The year in review

by David Erik Nelson

Israel @ 60:

The year 5768 was a year-long celebration of the 60th anniversary of Israel's independence. Locally, we marked this auspicious occasion with a wide variety of events, including concerts, films screenings, chocolate tastings, dance performances such as Sheketak: Rhythm in Motion, a visit from nationally acclaimed storyteller Vared Hankin, and a broad array of lectures.

Nonetheless, a report released in September by the Andrea and Charles Bronfman Philanthropies, "Beyond Distancing: Young Adult American Jews and their Alienation from Israel," found that younger Jews are increasingly distant from Israel, and even uncomfortable with the notion of a Jewish homeland, a trend that has continued for decades. Meanwhile, the Steinhardt Social Research Institute (SSRI) released an analysis of several decades of data from the American Jewish Committee's annual Survey of Jewish Public Opinion polls. They found no significant degradation in American Jew's esteem for Israel. SSRI conjectured that modern American Jews grow more affectionate toward the homeland as they age.

We spoke often and at depth on the state of the conflicted Holy Land. In the fall, Rafi Danziger of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) gave the lecture "Israel at a Crossroads: How Can You Have a Real Impact." In early December, historian Michael Oren spoke at the Jewish Federation of Washtenaw County's Main Event, exploring the significance of Israel's 60th anniversary, including America's involvement in the Middle East since 1776, in a talk titled "Three Hundred Years of History: What American Presidents Didn't Learn…." Orin is best known for his books *The Making of the Modern Middle East* and *Power, Faith, and Fantasy: America in the Middle East, 1776 to the Present*. In May, we gathered at the Jewish Community Center to celebrate the Jewish homeland's birthday at the annual Celebrate Israel Yom Ha'atzmaut festival.

Education

We continued to foster exemplary opportunities in primary, secondary, and continuing education. This year the JCC's Early Childhood Center adopted the innovative, learner-driven High/Scope approach to early childhood education—the first Jewish day program in the nation to do so. The JCC's Hebrew Day School started the year by hiring six new staff members. A teacher in the HDS gan (kindergarten), Jennifer Rosenberg, received one of 76 North American Grinspoon-Steinhardt Awards for Excellence in Jewish Education from the Jewish Education Service of North America (JESNA). HDS also received several major grants and gifts, including a W.K. Kellogg Foundation grant for institutional growth—which funded a professionally led assessment of the HDS programs and business practices. Finally, HDS's exemplary marketing practices were singled out for special praise at the Partners for Excellence in Jewish Education 2008 Assembly.

High schoolers in Ann Arbor can now receive foreign language credit while studying Hebrew, thanks to the biweekly Keshet program, funded and supported by grants from the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, Temple Beth Emeth, Beth Israel Congregation, the Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan, and donations from the community.

The University of Michigan's Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies welcomed their first cohort of scholars. Throughout the year institute fellows worked independently and collaboratively around the theme of "Jews & the City."

Finally, with our continued dedication to education at all stages in life, we offered a variety of adult education classes, exploring our history (e.g. the Jewish Cultural Society's "From Sumeria to Brooklyn, The Long, Strange Trip of the Jewish People"), ethics (via a Talmudic ethics course taught by the Ann Arbor Chabad House), and a variety of innovative spiritual workshops and classes, including lectures by Jewish meditation guru rabbi Alan Lew, and the women's "Spa for the Body

and Soul," hosted by the Federation and local women's organizations.

Arts and music

The literary and performing arts played a major role in the celebration year. Music marked all of the major passages of the year, with family concerts at the JCC for Sukkoth, Chanukah, and Passover, and major performances by Leo Kottke and the Turtle Island String Quartet, Mandy Patinkin, the Idan Raichel Project, and famed violinist Pinchas Zuckerman, performing in East Lansing with London's Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

The 20th Annual Ann Arbor Jewish Book Festival was highlighted by award-winning investigative journalist Stephen Fried and his new book *Husbandry: Sex, Love, and Dirty Laundr—Inside the Minds of Married Men*. It also included Andrei S. Markovits discussing his book *Uncouth Nation: Europe Dislikes America*. Markovits' findings include the disconcerting discovery that the current spate of anti-Americanism boiling in Europe has begun to nurture a new strain of anti-Semitism, which we sadly saw born out in the news as anti-Semitic sentiment climbed in Britain, France, Poland, Germany, Italy, and Spain.

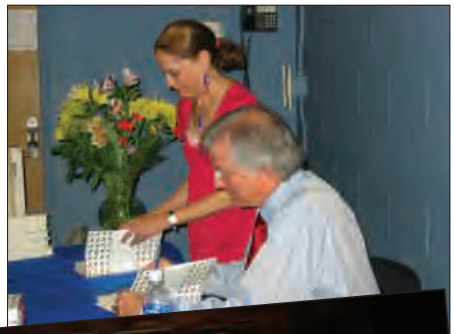
The Seventh Lenore Marwil Jewish Film Festival kicked off on Mother's Day by honoring funny ladies: Women were invited to enjoy a dessert reception and the documentary *Making Trouble: Three Generations of Funny Jewish Women* free of charge. Other notable screenings included *Nina's Home* (winner of the Sarah and Harold Gottlieb Award for Contributions to Jewish Culture) and Sydney Pollack's *Sketches of Frank Gehry*; this screening sadly came just two weeks before the death of this influential director and actor.

Social action

Our commitment to social action and tikkun olam were unflagging in 5768, with renewed interest in the genocide in Darfur, tension in Iran, easing the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, increasing interfaith dialogue, and the state of world Jewry.

At the beginning of the year Ruth Messinger spoke on "Jews as Global Citizens: Our Responsibility in the World" at the American Jewish World Service luncheon at the JCC. That same month, Rabbi Howard Gorin discussed *Klal Yisrael*, or connections between all Jews, at Beth Israel Congregation, in a presentation on his work with African Jewish communities, such as the Ugandan Abayudaya and Nigerian Ibo. In conjunction with the Dalai Lama's historic visit to Ann Arbor, we hosted a panel discussion on "Sustainability and Religion: Natural Partners or Uneasy Acquaintances" in April, featuring Rabbi Robert D. Levy, Dr. Rolf Bouma, Sister Paula Cathcart, and Gelek Rimpoche.

Throughout the year the JCC hosted a variety of lectures and panel discussions exploring the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. These included Rabbi Arik Ascherman, executive director of Rabbis for Human Rights, speaking on "Jewish Values, Human Rights and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict," and a talk by Gershon Baskin and Hanna Siniora, leaders of the Israel/Palestine Center for Research and Information, as part of their 10 city tour. Meanwhile, the Jewish Cultural Society Sunday Schmoose took a practical approach with "Talking Peace: How to Communicate with your Jewish Friends about the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict." Lead by Aaron Ahuvia, this lecture concerned "social marketing"— the practice of using marketing techniques to positively address social problems—and presented practical applications of Ahuvia's research on the psychology of the conflict.



Local community

At home, we continued to grow and enrich ourselves as a community. Pardes Hannah, our growing Jewish Renewal congregation, was overjoyed to acquire a restored Holocaust-era torah, which had not been used in services since the Shoah. The Jewish Cultural Society continued running their First Friday Shabbat observances, rewritten to emphasize the relaxing and reflective aspects of the Sabbath, in contrast to the panic-inducing rush of our daily lives.

Our social calendars were packed with new activities this year. The JCC launched weekly Israeli Dance Parties, as Absolute YAD (the Jewish Federation's Young Adult Division) continued their Shabbat in the Park and frequent bar nights. These served as a platform for the vibrant younger adults in our community to coordinate social events and community service, and make contacts in the business community. Temple Beth Emeth sponsored the formation of Southeast Michigan's Jewish Hikers of Michigan, organizing monthly two hour hikes.

Beth Israel Congregation hired a new program director, Jake Kander, at the beginning of the year, and the JCC welcomed a new youth/teen/camp director, Deborah Huerta. In the spring, the Jewish Federation welcomed their new executive director, David Shtulman.

Throughout the year, Jewish Family Services (JFS) sought to help community members meet personal and family problems head on. These efforts included a spring conference, "Depression Awareness: A Community Conversation," and launching a Youth in Crises Referral and Resource Network (supported by the Benard L. Maas Foundation and other donors). JFS joined with the Jewish Federation in forming a Task Force for Older Adults Services. In the spring, JFS added three new staff members to their Older Adult Services Department, and launched the Patient Partners program to help Older Adults cope with medical appointments.

The Jewish Federation's Night of Hilarity and Charity—one of the innumerable activities that contribute to the Annual Campaign's year-long fund-raising efforts—returned after a one-year hiatus, featuring comedian Dan Ahdoot. Over the course of the year, the Federation's Annual Campaign—themed around Celebrating Jewish Life in this 60th anniversary of the independent Jewish homeland—was a great success, raising $1.8 million for local and global activities.✸

Washtenaw Jewish News Aims and Principles

- To provide the Jewish community of Washtenaw County with a quality newspaper that will present news of Jewish interest with a priority on local news.
- To offer commentary, interpretation and authentic background on events of the day, as a means of stimulating the concern and response vital to the fulfillment of our responsibilities as members of the Jewish community.
- To enrich the life of both individuals and the community through the presentation of features, articles, reviews and other material of Jewish content and interest.
- To provide a forum for comment by members of the community wishing to express their viewpoints on matters of Jewish interest.

The *Washtenaw Jewish News* is completely independent and is not affiliated with any one program, organization, movement or point of view within Jewish life, but endeavors to give expression to all facets of that life.

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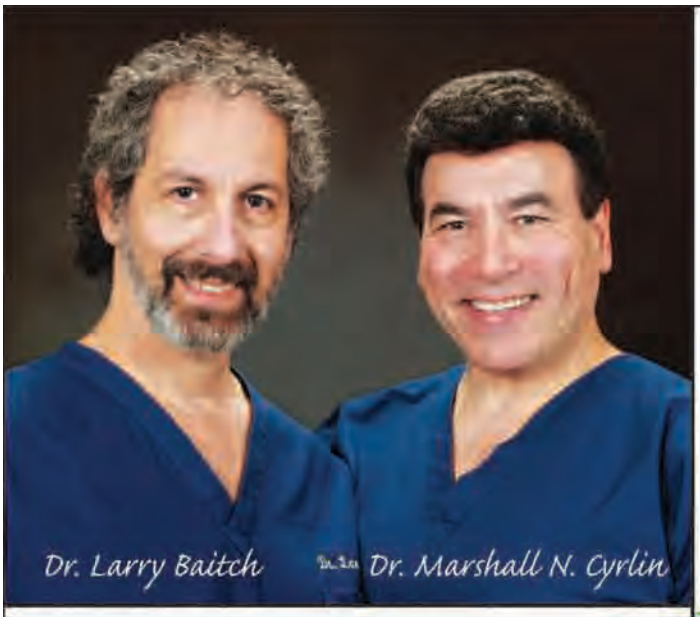

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The Jewish Calendar

"The Jewish calendar is the catechism of the Jews."

— Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch

The calendar shapes Jewish life and gives expression to the Jewish worldview. The deepest values and aspirations of the faith are revealed by the content of and the relationships among our holidays. The calendar is a solar-adjusted lunar system. The months average twenty-nine and a half days, resulting in a 354-day year. To ensure that festivals fall in their proper season, a thirteenth month is added in seven of every nineteen years.

1

"The holy days are the unbroken master code of Judaism."

– Rabbi Irving Greenberg

Festivals and Holy Days

A religion's sacred occasions reflect its history and beliefs. Holidays from our past commemorate ancient events, while newer holidays mark seminal developments of later times. The chief elements of the Jewish People's sacred seasons are: the cycles of nature and the natural world's beneficence; historic triumphs and tragedies, in all their power and promise; and the messianic hope to perfect our character and our world, in partnership with God.

3

"Three times a year you shall hold a festival for Me."

– Exodus 23:14

The Pilgrim Festivals: Nature and History

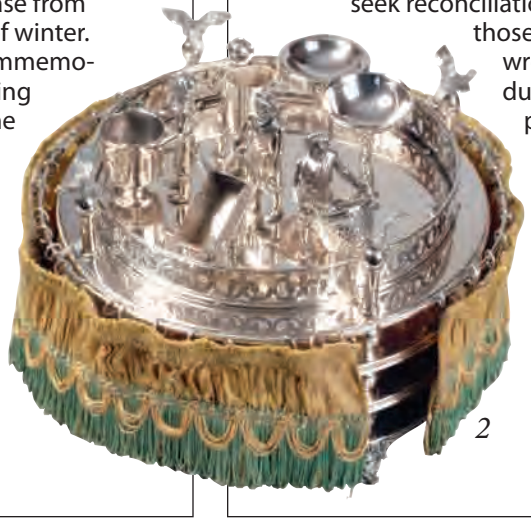
The Three "Pilgrim Festivals" are Pesach, Passover, in early spring; Shavuot, the Feast of Weeks, in late spring; and Sukkot, the Feast of Booths, in the autumn. In ancient times, Israelite males made pilgrimages to Jerusalem to celebrate the festivals. Pesach celebrates the liberation of our people from Egyptian bondage and nature's release from the bonds of winter. Shavuot commemorates the giving of Torah and the successful completion of the early harvest. Sukkot rejoices in God's providence during our forty-year journey from Egypt to the Promised Land, as well as the fullness of the autumn harvest.

"Our Parent, our Sovereign, hear our voice!"

—High Holy Day Prayer boo

The High Holy Days

The "Ten Days of Repentance" from Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, through Yom Kippur, The Day of Atonement, call for "an accounting of the soul." On Rosh Hashanah we express our hope for a sweet new year with apples and honey, reaffirm God's sovereignty and our need to make a new beginning with the sounding of the shofar, a ram's horn, and symbolically cast away our sins. On Yom Kippur we fast to enhance our concentration on spiritual matters; we confess our sins and seek reconciliation with those we have wronged during the past year.



2

"From grief and mourning to festive joy."

– Esther 9:22)

History-Based Holidays: The Past as Prologue

The eternal lessons of monumental events in Jewish history come alive each year in rituals of remembering and reenactment. Purim, the Feast of Lots, celebrates the story from the biblical book of Esther, in which a plot to exterminate the Jews is foiled by a woman of courage. Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, commemorates the rededication of the Jerusalem Temple and the regaining of religious freedom after the Maccabean victory over the vastly more powerful Assyrian Greeks. Tisha B'av, the ninth day of the month of Av, is a day of fasting on which some of the most painful and catastrophic events of Jewish history are remembered.

continues on page 8

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The Jewish Calendar

"In memory lies the secret of redemption."

(Baal Shem Tov)

Modern Observances

The 20th century produced some of the most horrible events of Jewish history and some of the most miraculous. Their meaning is captured through new holidays. Yom Hashoah v'Ha-Gevurah, Holocaust and Heroism Commemoration Day, memorializes the six million Jews killed by the Nazis and their collaborators and celebrates the courage of those who resisted the evildoers. Yom Ha-atzmaut, Israel Independence Day, celebrates the 1948 creation of the State of Israel as the culmination of 2000 years of hope and prayer. Yom Yerushalayim, Jerusalem Reunification Day, recalls the day in 1967 when Jewish soldiers recaptured the Old City of Jerusalem and reunited the city in which Jews have lived since the days of King David.

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2. *Passover Seder Plate, Hungary, 1920, Silver*
3. *Esther Scroll and case, Ismir, Turkey, 1875, Silver and decorated parchmen*
4. *Etrog Container, Silver, United States*

4

JEWISH HOLIDAYS, 5769 (2008/2009)

All holidays begin at sunset the preceding evening

Rosh Hashanah	Sept. 30–Oct.1
Yom Kippur	October 9
Sukkot	October 14
Shemini Atzeret	October 21
Simchat Torah	October 22
Chanukah	December 22–29
Tu B'Shevat	February 9
Purim	March 10
Passover	April 9–16
Yom HaShoah	April 21
Yom HaZikaron	April 28
Yom HaAtzmaut	April 29
Lag B'Omer	May 12
Shavuot	May 29–30
Tisha B'Av	July 30

Text and photographs reprinted with permission from The Temple Museum of Religious Art, The Temple-Tifereth Israel. The Temple Museum was founded in 1950 and has over 1,400 ritual and fine arts objects that are exhibited in three different gallery locations: The Temple-Tifereth Israel Gallery at the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage, The Temple-Tifereth Israel's landmark synagogue building in Cleveland's University Circle and The Temple-Tifereth Israel in Beachwood, Ohio.

Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage: An American Story

Opened in 2005, The Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage joined an elite group of world-class institutions as a living testament to the courage, conviction and achievements of Cleveland's Jewish community. The stories of individuals and families – past and present – come to life through state-of-the-art exhibitions, interactives and films, oral histories, photographs and artifacts. The Museum includes The Temple-Tifereth Israel Gallery, an internationally-recognized collection of Judaica, and an exhibition gallery featuring important exhibitions of national and international acclaim.

For information about hours, admission, programs, the Museum Store and special exhibitions, visit www.MaltzJewishMuseum.org or phone (216) 593-0575. The Museum is located at 2929 Richmond Road, Beachwood, Ohio.

community organizations

NOTE: All addresses are in Ann Arbor, unless otherwise specified.

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER ANN ARBOR

2939 Birch Hollow Drive, 48108
tel: 677-0100
email: info@jewishannarbor.org
website: www.jewishannarbor.org
Susan Fisher, president
David Shtulman, executive director

At the center of one of the most diverse and welcoming Jewish communities in America, the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor celebrates and strengthens Jewish life at home, in Israel, and around the world.

Federation sponsors a wide variety of social, educational and cultural programs throughout the year including seminars and lectures; Spa for the Body & Soul; missions to Israel and community festivals like Celebrate Israel. The PJ Library program provides free Jewish books and music to young children six months to seven years of age.

Federation's fall "Main Event" brings together more than 700 community members to share an evening of community education and fellowship, and to raise the funds needed to continue our work. The 2008 annual campaign raised over $1.8 million from 1,500 families.

Of the money raised, the Federation distributes over $125,000 to programs overseas that reflect the unique, progressive character of Greater Ann Arbor's Jewish community, including programs that foster Arab/Jewish understanding; provide support for Israel's minority and underserved communities; meet the special needs of women; and strengthen Israel-Diaspora relationships by participating in Partnership 2000 in the Central

Jewish Federation *of Greater Ann Arbor*

CAMPAIGN YEAR 2008

LOCAL AGENCIES

Chabad House	5,880
Community Security	100,000
Council of Jewish Educators	16,415
Eastern Michigan University Hillel	12,250
Hebrew Day School	107,000
Jewish Community Center	176,400
Jewish Community Foundation	62,985
Jewish Family Services	103,880
Jewish Federation	174,838
Keshet	16,346
Missions/ Leadership Development	4,508
Summer Camp Scholarships	9,800
University of Michigan Hillel	13,524
Matching Program Funds	100,000
Local Total	$901,686

NON-LOCAL AGENCIES

Baby Help Program in Argentina	6,000
Birthright israel	7,840
Hand-in-Hand School	14,000
Israel Crisis Management Center	15,000
Israel Scholarships	9,800
JDC Welfare Relief in the FSU	25,000
JDC Welfare Relief in Argentina	6,000
Jewish Council for Public Affairs	1,470
PACT– Parents & Children Together	10,000
Partnership 2000	20,000
United Jewish Communities (Dues, JDC and JAFI)	422,855
Non-Local Total	$537,965
Campaign Expenses	$306,951
TOTAL CAMPAIGN	$1,712,735

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Galilee, particularly through the community-to-community partnership with Moshav Nahalal.

Federation offers many volunteer opportunities:

The Annual Campaign, the engine that drives the community, relies upon volunteers to plan events, engage community members and raise funds. More than 200 volunteers joined the 2007 effort. The Maimonides Society offers the opportunity for physicians and dentists to stay connected through educational, social and philanthropic programming. The Hope For Peace project engages local church groups in dialogues about Israel by presenting an American Jewish perspective of Israel's achievements and discussing the Arab/Israeli conflict.

The Israel and Overseas Committee helps identify projects in Israel and around the world that reflect the unique character of the Jewish community and merit Foundation support.

Other community-wide events needing volunteers include: The Main Event, Spa for the Body & Soul and Celebrate Israel. Helping to plan them is a great way to meet kindred spirits and make a real difference.

YOUNG ADULT DIVISION

tel: 677- 0100
fax: 677-0109
email:yad@jewishannarbor.org
Tina Gargotta, program coordinator

Through active participation in the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, Young Adult Division (YAD) provides emerging leaders (25–45) with social, cultural, educational and philanthropic opportunities in a Jewish atmosphere. YAD brings people together, instills Jewish pride and builds Jewish leadership locally, nationally and internationally. The YAD Steering Committee spearheads the efforts of the Young Adult Division, planning and organizing programs and events, and working to educate and involve their contemporaries in the Federation mission.

YAD's Annual events include "A Night of Hilarity and Charity," in support of the Jewish Federation's annual campaign; "Absolute YAD," bar nights with twist, social justice programming; "Power Hour" professional networking events; "Shabbat in the Park;" and family programs like "PJs and Pancakes" and "The Jewish Mamas Group." YAD also sponsors the Ben-Gurion

Society, a group of donors aged 25–45 who make a gift of $1,000 or more to the Jewish Federation's annual campaign. Special programs and educational opportunities are available to these individuals who are stepping up and helping to shape the future of the Jewish community.

JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF WASHTENAW COUNTY

2939 Birch Hollow Drive, 48108
tel: 677-0100
David Herzig, president

The Foundation exists to ensure that the high quality of Jewish life will continue in Washtenaw County for generations to come; that the Jewish agencies and institutions will enjoy continued growth; and that commitment to Israel and world-wide Jewry will continue. Under the auspices of the Jewish Federation, the Foundation's partners—Beth Israel Congregation, Chabad House, Hebrew Day School, Jewish Community Center, Jewish Cultural Society, Jewish Family Service, Jewish Federation and Temple Beth Emeth—build their own endowments under the umbrella of the Foundation.

The Foundation's board of directors is empowered to receive gifts and bequests of money and property from individuals, corporations and other entities. The Foundation can help donors realize tax savings advantages, improve personal cash flow, increase giving capabilities and leave a lasting legacy. Contact the director of the Foundation or the executive directors of any of the partner organizations to consult confidentially about planned giving opportunities.

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF WASHTENAW COUNTY

2245 S. State Street, Suite 200, 48104
tel: 769-0209
fax: 769-0224
email: info@jfsannarbor.org
website: www.jfsannarbor.org
Anya Abramzon, executive director

Jewish Family Services (JFS) is a nonprofit social services agency serving the people of Washtenaw County for over fourteen years. JFS offers a variety of services to the local Jewish community.

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PHOTO BY LUDA KETSLACK.

SOCIAL SERVICES

JFS provides case management, crisis intervention and information, assessment and referrals to appropriate agencies for issues such as housing, mental health, financial support, employment and adoption.

OLDER ADULT SERVICES

JFS helps older adults maintain their independence and enhance their involvement with the community. Geriatric social workers provide care management, assessment, short-term counseling, home visits, crisis intervention, patient advocacy (through the Advocacy Connection program), information, and referrals for older adults and their families. Volunteers provide friendly visiting and telephone reassurance to homebound seniors, as well as accompaniment to medical appointments through the "Patient Partners" program. In collaboration with the JCC, JFS provides a range of social, educational, and cultural programming for seniors, including workshops, presentations, and holiday celebrations (such as a community -wide Senior Seder).

CAREGIVER SUPPORT SERVICES

The JFS "Caregiver Concierge" program assists adult children caring for aging parents in navigating the complex terrain of caregiving. This program provides both emotional and instrumental support to caregivers through an extensive menu of services including information and referrals, facilitated introductions to facilities and service providers, monthly "Caregiver Conversations" support groups, and educational workshops.

NEW AMERICAN SERVICES

The Ann Arbor area's Jewish community is home to more than 600 refugees from the former Soviet Union. The New American Community Club assists foreign-born older adults in accessing social and medical services, offers direct psychological support and promotes the process of acculturation and integration into the larger community through a variety of support and social services.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

JFS offers mental health assessments, short-term counseling and referrals to mental health providers, as well as ongoing support to individuals and families. Insurance acceptance, fees, and availability of sliding scale and pro bono services vary with each individual therapist. JFS offers group forums to identify and discuss mental health concerns, including the Depression Awareness workshop each spring.

TRANSPORTATION

The JFS CareVan helps clients to maintain their independence and self-sufficiency by providing rides to locations within the Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti area. Available to anyone who is over the age of 62 or disabled, the JFS CareVan transports older adults to medical appointments, social outings, or on errands. The CareVan features a wheelchair lift and seating for ten. Reservations are required at least one week in advance.

PHOTO BY LUDA KETSLACK.

FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION

JFS workshops help families and individuals cope with life crises and enhance identity and participation in the Jewish community. The Family Life Education Program addresses a variety of the problems and challenges faced by Jewish families in today's world. Seminars, workshops and educational programming are offered throughout the year on a range of topics, as well as ongoing series and group meetings.

ELDERLINK

In lieu of a dedicated Jewish senior housing facility, ElderLink offers independent, assisted living, and nursing homes, as well as home care agencies, the tools and ability to meet the needs of Jewish seniors. The JFS ElderLink Network is a group of senior residential facilities and home care agencies that are committed to providing culturally competent care for their Jewish clients. By joining ElderLink, these facilities and agencies receive from JFS: training for staff and caregivers on Jewish culture, history, holidays, and the unique needs of Jewish older adults; two totes full of decorative and functional Judaica items to be used in Jewish celebrations and daily observance; an informational manual; a bi-monthly newsletter; assistance from JFS with Jewish holiday celebrations; and a selection of Jewish social, educational, and cultural programs to be held at their facility.

RESETTLEMENT SERVICES

Each year, JFS helps resettle new immigrants, providing pre-arrival, reception and placement services, and assistance in finding housing and household furnishings. JFS also helps new immigrants develop English language skills, access medical care, and train for and find employment. Comprehensive English as a Second Language classes, employment counseling and related services are available to all non-English speakers in Washtenaw County.

EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER SERVICES

JFS assists individuals in Washtenaw County, both English and non-English speakers, who are seeking employment. JFS provides help with job readiness, résumé preparation, job search skills, and other support services. English as a Second Language classes, job counseling, vocational skills assessment, translation and other vocational services are provided.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

You can make a difference, use your skills and talents, and enjoy a rewarding experience through the JFS Volunteer Program. Volunteers perform an important role in fulfilling the agency's mission of service to the community. Flexible opportunities are available to volunteers of all ages, from young teens to older adults. There are opportunities to volunteer once a week, once a month or once a year, depending on one's schedule. Opportunities include:

- Friendly visitors for older adults
- Phone Friends for older adults
- Patient Partners to assist older adults at doctor's visits
- Professional services such as legal, counseling, and medical/dental
- Administrative and agency support in the office or at special events
- English as a Second Language (ESL) tutors
- Holiday gift delivery

YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

JFS recognizes the growing number of families who find themselves out of options with a youth who is on the path of self-destruction. In response, JFS is developing a Youth in Crisis Resource and Referral Network in collaboration with local and national service providers. JFS social workers utilize a family-centered wrap-around approach, supporting youth and families as they acknowledge, address and begin healing the wide range of issues and challenges facing them. Services offered include assessment, short-term counseling, wrap-around case management, crisis intervention and referrals.

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF WASHTENAW COUNTY

2935 Birch Hollow Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
tel: 971-0990
fax: 677-0109
email: lesliebash@jccfed.org
website: www.jccannarbor.org
Leslie Bash, executive director
Elaine Margolis, president

The Jewish Community Center strives to build a strong and cohesive sense of Jewish community and Jewish identity. The JCC initiates community-wide programs, brings together a diverse Jewish

population, serves as a meeting place for Jewish organizations, and provides high-quality programming for Jewish people of all ages from the youngest child to the oldest adult.

During the year, the JCC holds many popular community wide events, including Apples & Honey (a family event celebrating the Fall Jewish Holidays), the Jewish Book Festival, Jewish Film Festival, a bi-yearly auction, Family Fun Days, a family Passover celebration, the Matzah Factory with Chabad, and the Benard L. Maas JCC Children's Entertainment Series.

The JCC is also home to the JCC Early Childhood Center, Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, Hebrew Day School, Jewish Cultural Society, Reconstructionist Havurah, the *Washtenaw Jewish News*, and a branch office of Jewish Family Services.

JCC EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

email: ndeyoung@umich.edu
Noreen DeYoung, director
Peretz Hirschbein, assistant director

JCC Early Childhood Center celebrates Judaism in a loving, supportive environment that encourages children's creativity and spontaneity. The ECC strives to create a growing experience in which children will thrive.

The ECC is accredited by the National Association for the Education for Young Children (NAEYC). Programs are provided for children ages 2 months to 5 years. The school offers morning pre-school and full and part-time childcare. In addition, parent/infant and toddler classes, Tot Shabbat, and pre-school enrichment classes are offered on a weekly basis. Songs, dance, holiday celebrations, and weekly Shabbat observance enrich the curriculum along with Shabbat family dinners, literacy events, and parenting programs.

Children are provided an opportunity for active learning that allows them to learn by being involved in their environment and by engaging in activities that encourage personal growth. They are given choices in the way they manipulate a variety of open-ended materials and with adult instructors who support their choices and listen to them. A loving, supportive atmosphere is provided in which a child's creativity and spontaneity are encouraged. A favorable staff-child ratio enhances individual and developmental activities designed to meet the child at his or her level of readiness. The program is highly influenced by the High Scope approach to Early Childhood Education.

YOUTH PROGRAMMING

email: deborahhuerta@jccfed.org
Deborah Huerta, director

JCC after-school (and weekend) enrichment classes offer professional instruction in cultural arts, sports, chess, photography, swim lessons, and a wide variety of other interest areas. Kids' Konnection provides licensed after-school childcare for JCC members in kindergarten through fifth grade. The hours are 3:20–6 p.m.

School's Out! JCC's In! is a vacation program that serves Ann Arbor Public School and Hebrew Day School students on days off from school with special programs and field trips. Limited transportation is provided by the JCC. Bryant and Pattengill elementary schools provide bus transportation to the JCC.

Kids' Night Out (Parent's Night Off) is a monthly Saturday night party for elementary age children. A wide range of activities are offered including sports, art, games, and special theme nights. A pizza dinner, sundae bar, and movie are also part of the evening.

TEEN PROGRAMMING

email: deborahhuerta@jccfed.org
Deborah Huerta, director

The JCC Maccabi sports program prepares kids for the JCC Maccabi Youth Games, an Olympic experience for Jewish youth ages 13–16. These sports competitions are held each summer at various locations across the United States. In addition to the athletic competitions, social and cultural programming are integral components of the games.

The Outdoor Club program runs three weekend or longer "adventure" trips primarily for teens in grades 9–12. Trips include canoeing, rafting, winter camping, and skiing and backpacking trips.

ADULT PROGRAMMING

The JCC offers a variety of cultural and educational classes, workshops, and programs to enrich the lives of adults in the local Jewish community. Program-

ming consists of exercise classes, a co-ed volleyball team, lecture series with guest speakers, film programs, art exhibits, social events, and celebrations of the Jewish holidays, rituals and traditions. The JCC also houses the Gelman Jewish Heritage Video Collection with over 200 videos for home viewing.

FAMILY PROGRAMMING

Family programming offers opportunities for families to meet, have fun together, and participate in a variety of activities, such as holiday celebrations, family entertainment and recreational outings, family

fun days, social action projects, and sporting events. Jewish education and values are incorporated into the programs.

CAMP RAANANA

website: www.campraanana.com
email: deborahhuerta@jccfed.org
Deborah Huerta, director

Raanana Day Camp is for children entering kindergarten through 13 years of age. The camp provides a full recreational program and a strong Judaic cultural experience.

Camp Raanana is located on its own private beachfront site at Independence Lake County Park in Webster Township and at the JCC. The facility includes a large covered pavilion swimming beach, baseball diamonds, bathrooms, and nature trails. In addition, boating fishing, nature facilities, and a zero depth "spray zone" are available in the park.

Summer camp is the perfect place for children to explore new interests, gain self-confidence and skills, interact with other Jewish youth and Israeli counselors, and have fun while engaging in a full spectrum of activities. Program components include swimming, sports, nature, music, dance, arts and crafts, Judaica, and drama. Each week there is a special event or field trip as well as Shabbat at the lake.

The Pioneer Travel Program is for all campers who are between the ages of 10 and 13 and

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is designed to fulfill the special needs and expectations of this age group. Four field trips a week are offered and include activities such as hiking, fishing, ropes courses, amusement parks, water-parks, archery, and a variety of other exciting destinations.

Raanana Day Camp not only offers a full range of activities, but is also well known for its emphasis on character development. Campers are encouraged to make decisions, take responsibility, work with others, and enhance their sense of self-worth. A highlight of every week is Friday Oneg Shabbat when children celebrate the coming of Shabbat with music, skits, and other interactive programs. Camp Raanana offers nine one-week sessions and runs from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Childcare is also available for all ages from 7:30–9 a.m. and 4–6 p.m.

CAMP KESHET

email: ndeyoung@umich.edu
Noreen DeYoung, director

Camp Keshet is a program of the JCC Early Childhood Center and is open to children ages 3 to 5 years old. All children will attend each session for 5 mornings (9 a.m.–1 p.m.) per two week session. Each two week session features a different theme utilizing the JCC's beautiful outdoor facility. Children participate in activities with art, nature, sports, and music specialists that highlight the theme of the session. Additionally, special guests come in and campers go on selected field trips to further support the theme. Every Monday camp bids farewell to Shabbat with Havdalah. Tuesdays and Thursdays mornings include swimming at Buhr Pool. Fridays the arrival of Shabbat is celebrated. Session themes include Garden Days, Tikkun Olam (repairing the world), Down on the Farm, and Things That Go.

JCC OLDER ADULT PROGRAMS

See Older Adult Programs

JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

c/o Jewish Federation of Washtenaw County
2939 Birch Hollow Drive 48108
tel: 677-0100
Elise Weisbach and Carol Finerman, chairs

Jewish Historical Society of Washtenaw County is a volunteer organization dedicated to the collection and preservation of documents, photographs and artifacts relevant to Jewish history in Washtenaw County. Its activities provide a link between the past and the present to ensure that future generations will understand how the Jewish community of Washtenaw County was established and developed. Its collections are available to students, researchers and other people interested in the sociological, religious and cultural history of our community.

Ann Arbor Florence Melton Adult Mini-School

The Florence Melton Adult Mini-School is a world pioneer in the field of adult Jewish education. With its international headquarters at the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School Institute of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and a national office for North America in Northbrook, IL, the Mini-School, a social franchise, forms an international network of community-based schools offering adults the opportunity to acquire Jewish literacy in an open, trans-denominational, intellectually stimulating learning environment

The Florence Melton Adult Mini-School is the largest pluralistic adult Jewish education network in the world. Founded in 1986, the Mini-School initially opened with three pilot sites in North America. There are now over 60 Mini-Schools in 60 cities throughout the United States, Canada, United Kingdom and Australia, attended weekly by some 5,500 students.

What Makes the Mini-School Unique?
Students enroll in a sequential two-year course developed specifically for adult learners. They meet one day a week throughout the academic year. There are no examinations. The only prerequisite is a commitment to learn. The Mini-School infuses students with a desire to make Jewish learning a way of life which often continues beyond the first two years into Mini-School graduate courses.

Four text-based courses make up the sequential two-year curriculum written by a team of experts at the Hebrew University's Melton Centre for Jewish Education, the world's largest academic center for Jewish education. Click on the video link to hear more: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gIlNgy6dZ_w

Sponsorship and Contact Information
Hosted by the JCC, the Ann Arbor Mini-School is made possible by seed money from the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, a grant from The Covenant Foundation, and support from a consortium of community organizations and congregations.

congregations and religious life

ARBOR ORTHODOX MINYAN

tel: 994-5822
email: rabbi@annarborminyan.org
Rabbi Rod Glogower
Kathleen Savit, president
website: www.annarborminyan.org

The Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan is one of Ann Arbor's oldest Jewish organizations. Its roots go back to the mid-1960s, when several University of Michigan faculty families, feeling the lack of an Orthodox minyan in town, began weekly services, gathering in members' homes on a rotating basis. Today the AAOM meets in the University of Michigan Hillel in conjunction with the Hillel student Orthodox Minyan.

Services are held weekly at sundown on Fridays during the school year and between 7 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the summer, depending on the week. Shabbat morning services are at 9:30 a.m. The Shabbat afternoon Mincha service is held a half-hour before sunset year round, followed by Seudah Shlishit and Maariv.

Daily morning services are held in conjunction with Chabad House at 7:30 a.m., Monday-Wednesday at Hillel, and Thursday and Friday, and Sunday (at 9 a.m.) at Chabad House.

A variety of formal and informal learning opportunities are offered during the school year, including Rabbi Glogower's Tuesday evening class: "Topics in Rabbinic Literature" and a short class between Shabbat Mincha and Maariv.

The Minyan sponsors other activities throughout the year, including the annual Shavuot picnic a picnic in the fall and other holiday celebrations, such as Shabbatonim featuring special guests.

ANN ARBOR RECONSTRUCTIONIST HAVURAH

P.O. Box 7451, 48107
tel: 445.1910
email: info@aarecon.org
website: www.aarecon.org

Reconstructionism is the fastest-growing major branch of Judaism. It views Judaism as an evolving religious civilization that encompasses religious, intellectual and cultural life. It respects both traditions—giving them "a vote, not a veto"—and intellect, as how best to live as Jews in the twenty-first century is explored.

The Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah is an open, welcoming, innovative community that works to integrate Jewish religious tradition and culture with its member's needs as modern Jews. Since 1993, it has grown to nearly 60 families who observe all major holidays, Shabbat, and life-cycle events, sponsors a Beit Sefer (religious school) and a full schedule of community and cultural activities. The Havurah is a member of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation.

THE COMMUNITY

Informality and a strong sense of community are the essence of a Havurah. Events like a baby-naming or bar / bat mitzvah typically attract a majority of the entire membership. From evenings of song and dance to the annual Sukkot Retreat to monthly sessions in Jewish meditation, the AARH offers members numerous opportunities to regularly or occasionally plug in to a warm, hospitable community.

Many singles, mixed-religion couples and non-traditional families are long-term, active members of the AARH. All find a welcoming and comfortable community.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE

The AARH observes Shabbat on the second and last Friday evenings of each month at 6:30 p.m. Last Friday services feature a highly-musical Kabbalat Shabbat with a concurrent Tot Shabbat, followed by an informal potluck dinner. Second Fridays have a brief service followed by an adult-oriented presentation or discussion. All Shabbat services take place at the Jewish Community Center.

High Holiday services for Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur day are musical, spiritual and highly participatory, led for many years by Havurah members Aura Ahuvia and Deb Kraus. In keeping with the Havurah's belief that prayer should always be free and open to all, non-members are welcome to join the Havurah for High Holiday services; no tickets are required. Children's services and day care are also offered.

Holidays and festivals are cause for great celebration: Simchat Torah, Chanukah and, especially, the annual Purim Party. There's also a community-wide second Seder geared toward the children of the community.

BEIT SEFER (RELIGIOUS SCHOOL)

The Beit Sefer is an innovative, warm and meaningful educational experience for K-6th graders that welcomes the children of AARH members and non-members alike.

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his or her own path to a Jewish identity that includes a grounding in both Jewish religion and civilization. Class topics include: Jewish Living Skills, Prayer and Spirituality, and Peoplehood and Israel. Tikkun Olam (repairing the world), is an important part of the curriculum. The Beit Sefer uses a hands-on approach that includes music sessions, crafts, storytelling, plays and Tzedakah (service learning) projects, leading up to bar or bat mitzvah. It's worth noting that the first girl ever to have a bat mitzvah was the daughter of the founder of Reconstructionism.

The Beit Sefer meets on Sunday mornings during the school year at the Jewish Community Center, and also offers a series of sessions for pre-K children and parents. Active involvement of parents is encouraged.

Visit the AARH website, www.aarecon.org, to find out more about Reconstructionism and the Havurah. Unless otherwise noted, non-members are welcome at all services and activities on the website calendar.

BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION (CONSERVATIVE)

2000 Washtenaw Avenue 48104
tel: 665-9897
fax: 665-2733
email: of ce@bethisrael-aa.org
website: www.bethisrael-aa.org
Rabbi Robert Dobrusin
Assistant Rabbi Kim Blumenthal
Elliot Sorkin, executive director

Beth Israel strives to be a vital presence in the spiritual, social and educational lives of its members. Established in 1916, the congregation is a welcoming and warm community, which fosters a connectedness to others and an important support system in time of need. Rabbi Robert Dobrusin, who is a graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary, has served the congregation with distinction for 20 years. He will be joined this year by Rabbi Kim Blumenthal, the Congregation's first assistant rabbi.

Beth Israel offers religious services that are egalitarian in nature, and participatory in practice. Kabbalat Shabbat services are held throughout the year on Friday evenings at 6 p.m. with occasional late services and programs. Shabbat morning services begin at 9:30 a.m. The various religious services have been carefully crafted to convey a wonderful sense of fellowship and community. A pancake breakfast for Simchat Torah, a Sweatshirt Shabbat followed by a cholent kiddush, a Kids Kiddush prepared by 5th and 6th graders, among others, are all events which enhance the feeling of community at Beth Israel. A daily minyan is held Sunday through Thursday at 7:30 p.m. (5 p.m. on winter Sundays). Beth Israel offers Shabbat morning activities for children, including childcare every week throughout the year, Moadon (informal Jewish enrichment programs for elementary students), Tot Shabbat, Minyan Motok, Junior Congregation, and Shabbat Yoga (for adults). The High Holidays include alternative family services, as well as Junior Congregation services appropriate for different ages of children. The festive Megilla Reading and celebration of Purim, in which both adults as well as children dress in costume, is one of the highlights of the year.

Adult education text study classes in the evening, Hebrew classes, lunch and learn discussions, and academic lectures on Sunday evenings are scheduled throughout the year. The Alfred and Alice Rosenberg Adult Scholar in Residence brings in noted scholars from around the world every other year. This coming year the overall educational theme is entitled "Bettering Ourselves, Bettering the Community," and concentrates on a Tikkun Olam (perfecting the world) theme. The Women's League Torah Fund Shabbat, the Henry Gershowitz Memorial Shabbat, and the Teen Shabbat all train members to become active leaders of the congregation on Shabbat by chanting the Torah and Haftorah portions, leading prayers, and giving the D'var Torah.

Social and recreational activities which allow members to get to know each other better, and programs emphasizing *tikkun olam*, are an important part of congregational life. Annual events such as the Family Fair, Quiz Night, and the themed Purim Celebration, delight the young and the old alike. Beth Israel hosts the homeless during Christmas and New Years Day through the Rotating Overflow Shelter program, runs a blood drive in March, and through the Mitzvah Connection organizes visits to the frail elderly and families in crises. The Chevra Nehama helps people who are recently bereaved. Activities for children and youth in 3rd–12th grades provide opportunities to socialize and have a good time in a Jewish framework.

Beth Israel maintains its own comprehensive website, and an e-mail list for weekly announcements. Non-members are invited to participate in all of its activities. New residents of Washtenaw County since last Yom Kippur may request free tickets to the High Holiday services. People aged 35 and under may join the congregation

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EDUCATION DEPARTMENT RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

tel: 769-2041
email: school@bethisrael-aa.org
Cindy Saper, director of education

Beth Israel Religious School's mission is to develop and strengthen the Jewish identity of students in kindergarten through twelfth grade by building their knowledge, skills, and commitment to lead full Jewish lives.

The comprehensive curriculum includes study of Torah, holidays, Jewish lifecycle, Israel, Jewish history and contemporary Jewish life, *tefillah* (prayer), *mitzvot* (commandments), ethics, values, Hebrew reading, and Hebrew conversation. *Tzedakkah* and *Tikkun Olam* projects, family programs, and field trips are all included in the students' educational experience and emphasize the importance of being part of the synagogue and wider Jewish community. The Bar and Bat Mitzvah and Madrichim (leadership) programs provide opportunities for students to continue their Jewish education through high school.

Beth Israel Religious School is the educational arm of Beth Israel Congregation and is guided by the principles of The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Beth Israel Congregation is proud to have a dedicated staff of veteran teachers, as well as teachers who are students themselves at local universities or graduate programs. Students, teachers and parents form a community in which the knowledge of Torah, practice of Jewish traditions, and connection to the Jewish people are valued.

ELEMENTARY PROGRAM

Grades K–1 meet Sunday mornings. Grade 2 meets on Sunday and Wednesday afternoons. Grades 3–5 meet on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday.

The youngest students at Beth Israel are introduced to Jewish learning through a program rich in Jewish music, games, stories, and arts and crafts activities. Students learn about the Jewish holidays, have exposure to the Hebrew language, and engage in *tefillah* which is age appropriate and interactive. Kindergarten and first grade families celebrate the beginning of formal Jewish education with a Consecra-

tion ceremony in the fall, and have other family programs throughout the year.

In second grade, students begin their formal study of Hebrew reading and writing. In the elementary program, students gain proficiency in Hebrew reading, writing, and *siddur* (prayerbook) skills. Each Sunday morning there is a period in which students work individually with high school or adult tutors to improve their

Hebrew reading. Conversational Hebrew is introduced as a living language, and as a connection with Jews worldwide. In Judaic studies, students learn more about holidays, mitzvot, and values in a hands-on curriculum designed to help them experience all facets of Jewish life, and have family programs which help build the home-school connection.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

Grades 6 and 7 meet two to three times per week. Grade 8 meets on Sunday mornings.

The middle school program addresses the many issues important to the students at this time in their lives. The goals for the religious school during the middle school years are to increase learning in both subject areas and skills, while engaging students in quality discussions and activities as they explore their own Jewish identities. Reviewing Jewish lifecycle events, exploring the concepts of mitzvot, contemplating Jewish ethics and values, looking at Talmud and other traditional Jewish texts, learning the history of the Jewish people, thinking about what it means to be a Jew in today's world, coming together as a community each week for tefillot, and engaging in a formal study of conversational Hebrew are all components of the program. Middle school students also engage in several tzedakah and tikkun olam projects throughout the year. Sixth graders attend a weekend retreat at the beginning of the year. A series of Shabbat morning sessions, as well as a series of family programs called the Bar/Bat Mitzvah Family Series engage students, as well as their parents in meaningful learning which facilitates the preparation of students for bar and bat mitzvah individual tutoring.

Conversational Hebrew at an immersion level is offered in the middle school. These classes are designed for students who have attended Hebrew Day School in the past, as well as students who have an extensive Hebrew background from other learning experiences. Students whose families are not Beth Israel members are welcome to attend these classes, and encouraged to call for more information.

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Madrichim Program. Through training sessions, seminars and work in various settings throughout the religious school and synagogue, 9th through 12th grade students learn about the various activities and institutions which make up Beth Israel Congregation. They serve as office and library assistants, classroom aides, Hebrew tutors, junior congregation leaders, and as mentors and role models for younger

students. In addition to seminars that focus on teacher training and leadership, high school students engage in seminars about Conservative Judaism, text study, Israel, and other topics relevant to their role as emergent leaders in the Jewish community.

ADDITIONAL CLASSES AND PROGRAMS

High school students are encouraged to take advantage of the Hebrew classes offered through Keshet Ann Arbor. They are also encouraged to participate in informal study sessions with Rabbi Dobrusin, come to adult synagogue lectures and events as appropriate, be active in USY or other youth groups, and attend Jewish camps and Israel programs.

BETH ISRAEL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT

tel: 769-1651
fax: 665-2733
email: programs@bethisrael-aa.org

The Programs Department provides high quality, experiential, and informal Jewish learning opportunities for youth, adults, and families. Programming embraces the full spectrum of Jewish life: cultural, educational, social, religious, and spiritual. All events are meant to reinforce and complement Jewish experiences in the home and beyond. To best achieve these objectives, weekly, monthly, and annual events are offered. These include family education programs, adult programming, Shabbat and holiday programming, youth groups, and other teen programs. Participation of all congregants is encouraged, and all events are also open to the general community.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

At the Beth Israel Congregation Family Fair on September 7 at Beth Israel, a variety of great activities for young and old will be offered including a bounce house, musical entertainment, performers, Israeli dancing, a free hot dog lunch, free snow cones,

soccer skills competition, Texas Hold 'um, special program and story time for incoming K–first graders, bingo, and lots of old fashioned fun (for adults too). Other events such as Shabbat in the Park, Pet Shabbat, Instrumental Kabbalat Shabbat, and the celebration of Tu B'shvat, all take place in the out-of-doors.

NEW MEMBER DINNER

Staff, lay leaders and fellow congregants look forward to this opportunity to welcome new members to the community, share what the congregation has to offer and to get to know each other.

QUIZ NIGHT

A highlight of the programming year is the annual multi-media Beth Israel Quiz Night. Adults of all ages compete as teams to answer trivia questions, audio and video clues, and other puzzles in a fun filled, social evening. The Quiz Night takes place in January.

ADULT EDUCATION

The Education and Programs Departments offer a variety of programs to interest learners of all ages. Included are opportunities to study beginning, intermediate and advanced Hebrew, a Sunday night lecture series (generally from 7:45 p.m.–9 p.m., with refreshments) featuring dynamic presenters

from local universities, text study classes on the weekly Torah portion and other topics, special holiday study sessions, the biennial Rosenberg scholar in residence weekend, and an Introduction to Judaism class led by Rabbi Sara Adler. In this coming year, Cantor Jeffery Shiovitz, editor of the songbook of the Conservative movement, *B'kol Echad - In One Voice*, will visit Beth Israel and share new Jewish music, and the director of Hekhsher Tzedek, Rabbi Morris Allen, will visit to speak about his important new initiative. Most classes and lectures are open to the public at no charge.

SPECIAL SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

SPECIAL SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY MEALS.

Beth Israel hosts a number of Shabbat and holiday meals which are a good way to get to meet other members of the synagogue community and enhance one's celebration of Shabbat and holidays. A special "Italian Jewry Friday Night Dinner" will take place in January. On Shabbat Shira (the Sabbath of Song) a Friday night Carlbach Kabbalat Shabbat service will be offered. An "International Shul of Pancakes Breakfast" is available in between the Shaharit Service and the Torah processionals on Simchat Torah. Beth Israel students at the Hebrew Day School lead a Friday Night Service, followed by a dinner for the entire community. "Sweatshirt Shabbat" encourages everyone to wear a sweatshirt to a winter Shabbat morning service, and is followed by a selection of cholents from the around the world, prepared by different congregants. Teen Shabbat and Kid's Kiddush allow the congregation's teens to run the service, while 5th and 6th graders plan and present the special kiddush luncheon which follows.

ROSH HASHANAH FAMILY CELEBRATION AND ROSH HASHANAH FAMILY SERVICE:

The special pre-Rosh Hashanah happening is an ideal way for families with younger (and squirmier) children to learn and enjoy something about Rosh Hashanah in a family-friendly manner. Past activities have included outdoor mixers, stories read from the *bimah*, small-group discussions and family presentations, and special crafts made for the rest of the congregation to discover during regular Rosh Hashanah services. The Rosh Hashanah Family Service is intended for families with elementary school aged children and is a more informal, participatory service than the regular Rosh Hashanah service.

HIGH HOLY DAY JUNIOR CONGREGATION SERVICES.

Special, age-appropriate services are offered for almost every level at Beth Israel, from preschoolers through 7th grade. With a different service offered for each of four age groupings, the holidays are celebrated in ways ranging from stories and hands-on activities for the youngest kids to offering older kids opportunities for serious (moderated) discussion and service-leading. Parents are always welcome to join these special services and see what their children are accomplishing and learning.

PROGRAMS FOR TOTS AND THEIR PARENTS

Beth Israel offers a comprehensive program for families with children aged 3–5. Dinners such as "Bring a Stuffed Animal Friend" Tot Friday Night Dinner, A Tot Hanukah Party, a Tot Tu B'shvat Seder and Dinner, and a Pre-Passover Tot Friday Night Dinner, include songs, crafts, and informal educational fun while the twice monthly Tot Shabbat program on Saturday mornings are great opportunities for families with children aged 3–5.

PURIM CELEBRATION

The entire congregation gets into the act by dressing up in costumes (adults as well as children) and participating in a themed Purim Megilla Reading which changes each year (past events included "A Harry Potter Purim," "A Star Wars Purim" and "The Pirates of Purim") and may include a separate Purim Puppet show for preschoolers.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CHILD CARE (ages 2-5)

Child care is offered weekly (Saturdays 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.), and on major Jewish holidays, with games, puzzles and plenty of free play. A snack is provided, as well as an outdoor activity (weather permitting). Older children can be accommodated with permission of the staff.

MOADON (grades 1-5)

Moadon, which means "gathering place," is a supervised drop-in program for elementary school students. Offered nearly every Shabbat from 10 a.m.–12:15 p.m. except during the summer, Moadon includes both unstructured play time as well as time for Jr. Congregation services, snacks, stories from the tradition and drama workshops.

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TOT SHABBAT:

Tot Shabbat is a twice monthly (2nd and 4th Saturday) mini-Shabbat service tailored to preschoolers which starts at 11:15 am. It includes Torah stories and a Torah parade, interactive songs, and creative prayer techniques appealing to children this age.

MINYAN MATOK

Minyan Matok is an age approriate interactive Shabbat service for children in kindergarten through 2nd grade. This service features songs and discussions while also teaching many of the prayers that are a part of the Shabbat morning service. Minyan Matok meets once a month at 11:15 a.m. on the second Saturday of the month, except during the summer.

JUNIOR CONGREGATION (grades 1–5)

This highly interactive Shabbat service which takes place from September–June is designed to serve as a teaching service, and as such, strives to be inclusive and welcoming of all children no matter what their familiarity level with the service is.

SHABBAT YOGA

Shabbat Yoga meets on the 3rd Saturday of most months at 9 a.m., and is a "gentle yoga flow" class intended to increase one's openness and awareness before joining the regular service. Themes from the week's *parasha* (Torah portion) are also studied and incorporated into the yoga session.

YOUTH GROUPS

HALUTZIM (grades 3–5).

Halutzim offers the opportunity for children to make friends in fun, informal Jewish settings, fostering a more comfortable, familiar feeling toward synagogue life and their Jewish identity.

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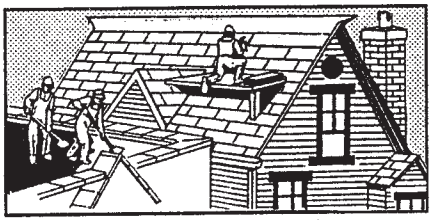
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KADIMA (grades 6–8)

Events are largely social in nature due to the age of the participants and the importance of creating a social network for the community's Jewish teens, but they also include activities are rooted in Jewish education and/or focus on social action.

Beth Israel's First Assistant Rabbi

On August 4, Rabbi Kim Blumenthal began her service as Beth Israel's first assistant rabbi, and the first woman to serve as clergy in the synagogue. Originally from Langhorne, Pennsylvania, Rabbi Blumenthal graduated from the Jewish Theological Seminary Rabbinical school, and received an M.A. from the Davidson School of

Education in 2006. Her undergraduate degree is from Columbia University. Rabbi Blumenthal most recently was the spiritual leader of Congregation B'nai Israel in Vernon, Conneticut, which she had served since 2005. Her husband is Ira Horowitz, whom she met while working for USY on Wheels.

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin, who is entering his 20th year of servce at Beth Israel said "We are thrilled to welcome Rabbi Blumenthal to Beth Israel. We anticipate that her enthusiasm and her expertise in many different areas will strengthen the current programs and that she will bring new ideas and directions for us to pursue. Rabbi Blumenthal's warm and engaging manner will help our congregation continue to serve the needs of congregants in many different ways. She will be a great asset to our congregation and to the Jewish community of Washtenaw County."

A2USY (TEENS)

USY offers teens a chance to connect to each other, the synagogue, regionally and locally and creates leadership opportunities allowing teens to socialize, as well as to contribute to the life of the synagogue and the community. Activities may include laser tag, whirlyball, kickball and social action events such as helping out at the Food Gatherers Community Kitchen.

OTHER TEEN ACTIVITIES:

TEEN SHABBAT

All post-bar/bat mitzvah teens are invited to participate in Teen Shabbat, a Shabbat morning service for the Beth Israel community. Teens conduct the entire service, including reading from the Torah and delivering the D'var Torah.

TEEN KOL NIDRE SERVICE

During the High Holidays, all teens in 8–12 grades are invited to participate in a unique Kol Nidre service. The service is lead primarily by the teens and includes a discussion session. This teens only service is a great way for Jewish teenagers to experience the holiday in a meaningful way.

HIGH SCHOOL DINNER OUT

High School students are invited to attend this special dinner out with Rabbi Dobrusin and various staff members as a kick-off to other activities during the year.

SCHMOOZE WITH THE RABBI

8th–12th graders are invited on select Saturdays to Rabbi Dobrusin's home on Saturday afternoons for snacks, schmooze, and Torah study.

MEN'S CLUB, BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION

See Men's Organizations

WOMEN'S LEAGUE, BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION

See Women's Organizations

CONGREGATION BETH CHABAD

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Rabbi Aharon and Esther Goldstein

Chabad-Lubavitch is a Chassidic movement within Judaism that focuses on the individual's relationship to God and fosters a deep sense of devotion and responsibility toward one's fellow men and women. It is characterized by its emphasis on education and its commitment to lend help wherever it is needed.

Chabad House and its Congregation Beth Chabad serve as a "home away from home" for Jewish students, as well as a synagogue and gathering place for families in the Washtenaw County area. Under the guidance of Rabbi Aharon and Esther Goldstein, Congregation Beth Chabad reaches out to all Jews regardless of age, affiliation or level of observance. Located on the University of Michigan campus, Congregation Beth Chabad is dedicated to increasing the understanding and knowledge of Judaism and to actively serving and improving the community.

Jewish education is a high priority at Congregation Chabad, where a wide variety of classes are available on a nearly daily basis. Courses include: Insights into the Torah Portion, Jewish Mysticism (Tanya), Hebrew Language, History and Approaches to Jewish Prayer, Talmud study group, Jewish law and general topics in Judaism. Everyone is welcome regardless of one's previous background and knowledge, and classes are free of charge and open to the public. Private classes are also available.

Services are conducted year-round in conformance with traditional Jewish law and practice. Hebrew prayer books are

available with English or Russian translations. Shabbat evening services begin 15 minutes before sundown Fridays during the school year and at 7 p.m. during the summer. Shabbat morning services begin at 9:45 a.m. Shabbat afternoon and evening services 40 minutes before sundown all year round. Daily services are held in conjunction with the Hillel Orthodox Minyan, starting at 7:30 a.m. during the week and at 9 a.m. on Sunday. Sunday, Thursday and Friday morning services take place at Chabad House; Monday through Wednesday services are held at Hillel.

Chabad plays an active role in the local Jewish community. Holiday highlights include shofar making at the JCC's Apples and Honey event, Chanukah adult and childrens' programs, distribution of *shalach manot* (gift baskets) for Purim and a Passover matzah bakery.

Chabad provides a place where life-cycle events can be commemorated and celebrated. Jewish services offered throughout the year include rabbinical advice, information and help on koshering home kitchens, provision of religious articles at cost, renting furnished rooms for students and visitors, providing Shabbat and holiday hospitality, meals, counseling, lectures and classes. Judaic and bar/bat mitzvah tutoring for children and adults is offered.

Chabad House facilities are available to all Jews in the community for the pursuit of Jewish knowledge and for contact with other Jews. Its hospitality and home-like atmosphere are appreciated by students and by visitors to the area. A Rosh Chodesh group for women only is provided and a mikvah is located on the premises (see Womens Organizations). Congregation Beth Chabad also offers a wide array of other services and programs, including adult education and a Judaic Library/CD ROM library (see Jewish Education). Chabad House is also a center for Jewish students at the University of Michigan (see Campus Organizations). For children, Chabad offers Torah Enrichment Program and a winter and summer day camp, and Camp Gan Israel (see Youth Activities.)

JEWISH CULTURAL SOCIETY

2935 Birch Hollow Drive 48108
tel: 975-9872
email: jcs@jccfed.org
website: www.jewishculturalsociety.org
Julie Gales, Madrikha (ordained leader)
Lori Moizia, school principal
Erika Hauf , administrator

The Jewish Cultural Society is a secular humanistic organization, promoting Jewish ethics, values, history, and culture from a human-focused perspective. It provides a community for those whose Jewish identification is primarily with culture, history, and family. Founded in 1965, the Jewish Cultural Society stresses the cultural aspects of Jewish traditions, Jewish history as a source of ethics and strength, and the values of humanism and social justice found in both modern and historical Judaism. The community offers enriching adult educational and social programs, holiday celebrations, life cycle events, social action opportunities, an engaging Sunday school, and other programs.

The JCS takes pride in the fact that the membership is diverse. All individuals and families—young and elderly, traditional and nontraditional, Jewish or intercultural—who wish to express their Jewishness from a secular humanistic perspective, are welcome. About a quarter of the members come from intercultural or interfaith marriages. The JCS offers holiday, Shabbat/Havdalah, life-cycle celebrations and also runs the Jewish Cultural School (see below).

The Jewish Cultural Society is based at the Jewish Community Center of Washtenaw County and is affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations, the Michigan Coalition of Secular and Humanistic Jews, and the International Federations of Secular Humanistic Jews.

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

Secular Humanistic Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre, and Yom Kippur observances, primarily in English, are offered every fall at the Jewish Community Center. The message of the High Holiday observances is reflection, responsibility, and forgiveness.

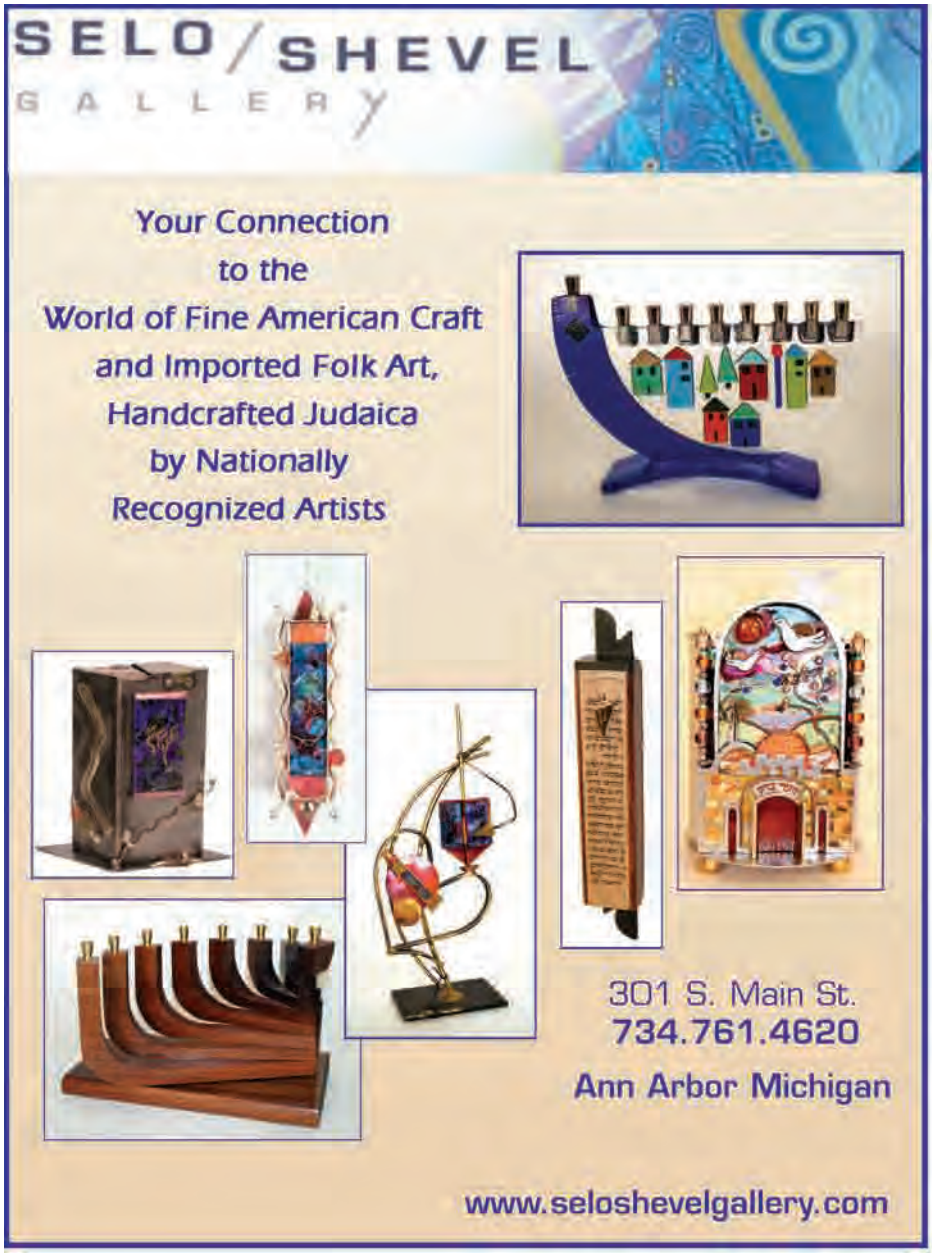
The observances are a rededication to communal and individual actions that improve the community and the world. Songs are sung in Hebrew, Yiddish, and English and are led by the Jewish Cultural Society choir. The Jewish Cultural Society observes Tashlich along the banks of the Huron River. The group begins with a potluck lunch that is followed by an observance and discussion. The Jewish Cultural Society community also comes together for a "Break-the-Fast" potluck after Yom Kippur. All observances are free to members and open to the public for a small charge.

Other holiday celebrations are coordinated by Sunday school parents, and include a Sukkot Harvest Celebration, a Chanukah Party, and a Purim Carnival. A wonderful biannual Jewish Cultural Society event is the Tu B'Shevat celebration of the trees at Matthaei Botanical Gardens in the midst of Michigan's winter, which emphasizes the theme of personal responsibility for the environment. Alternate years, the Jewish Cultural Society celebrates with a Tu B'Shevat Seder.

The Jewish Cultural Society holds a very popular community-wide vegetarian potluck Second Night Seder each Passover, using a contemporary Haggadah that was developed by members. The Seder includes songs and poetry, as well as offering a spotlight for JCS students to participate in the readings. The Seder emphasizes the continuing need to work for freedom throughout the world.

SHABBAT OBSERVANCES

The recognition of Shabbat is a time to step away from one's daily life and focus on family and learning is an important part of secular humanistic Jewish



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practice. The Jewish Cultural Society community meets on the first Friday of the month and are open to the community. The community celebrates Shabbat through secular Jewish readings; singing; candle lighting, challah, and wine rituals; and a Yahrtzeit observance to remember loved ones. Following the Shabbat observance, the community shares a potluck dinner and an educational or social action program. The after-dinner program may be a discussion on a topic of interest, a lecture, or a community activity. The First Friday Shabbat is celebrated at the JCC and participants of all ages are welcome.

A Family/Tot Shabbat is run concurrently with the First Friday Shabbat Observance. Family/Tot Shabbat is a wonderful way to welcome in the weekend with other families of early elementary age and younger children. The Jewish Cultural Society's interactive Family/Tot Shabbat begins with a short and upbeat celebration geared to young children with lots of singing and dancing. Following Shabbat, the group shares a potluck supper and makes holiday-themed crafts, reads stories and sings songs. Family/Tot Shabbat is celebrated at the JCC.

A bi-monthly celebration of Havdalah distinguishes between the quietness and introspection of Shabbat and the activity of the rest of the week. Celebrated at members' homes, the community begins Havdalah with a modern, secular humanistic observance. Following the Havdalah observance, JCS families welcome the new week with a potluck dinner. Children are welcome and participate in the celebration of Havdalah.

LIFE CYCLE OBSERVANCES

Life cycle observances, a central part of the Jewish Cultural Society, include baby namings, bar and bat mitzvah celebrations, weddings, funerals, and memorials and unveilings, all officiated by the Madrikha or ordained leader. The Jewish Cultural Society's Memorial Garden is at Arborcrest Cemetery in Ann Arbor.

Second grade students have a special Shabbat ceremony dedicated to affirming their Jewish names. This annual community-wide life cycle event provides the second grade class with the opportunity to learn about the people for whom they are named and, in the case of some students, to choose a Hebrew name for themselves.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The Jewish Cultural Society holds Sunday school for young people throughout the school year (see description below). Jewish learning continues after bar or bat mitzvah with the eighth-grade Sunday school class. Recently expanded, the eighth grade class curriculum focuses on Jewish ethics and social action projects. The eighth graders also plan monthly social activities that contribute to group cohesion and strong friendships. High school students become classroom aides in the Sunday school. Many of the post bar/bat mitzvah age youth attend the annual Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations' conference that takes place each Memorial Day weekend in different locations across North America.

The community offers Sunday morning adult education programs throughout the school year. These Sunday Schmoozes provide an opportunity for all members of the Ann Arbor Jewish community to meet local scholars and community leaders for an informal discussion of Jewish topics and world events. Recent topics have emphasized Secular Humanistic Judaism; improving family life; social action/social justice issues; Jewish cooking; and historic, political, or current events. Leyenkraytz, the JCS book club meets monthly on a Sunday morning to discuss books with a Jewish theme.

The adult b'nai mitzvah class meets biweekly. Participants, in collaboration with the leader, plan the curriculum content and pace. The adult mitzvah ceremony culminates the approximately two-year program.

A Mid-winter Forum hosts scholars of local, national, or international prominence to address a pressing issue of the day, an advance in understanding Jewish history, or a means to enrich the celebration of secular Jewish life. Recent Mid-winter Forum speakers include Dr. Adolfo Roitman, curator of the Shrine of the Book in Jerusalem and Dead Sea Scroll Scholar, and Rabbi Sherwin Wine, founder of Humanistic Judaism.

SOCIAL ACTION

Social action is at the heart of Secular Humanistic Judaism. A firm belief that Jews are responsible for their own history, actions, and future motivates secular humanistic Jews to place Tikkun Olam at the center of their Jewish consciousness. The Social Action committee uses email to keep the Jewish Cultural Society community informed on issues requiring action such as letter writing, marches, and briefings. Jewish Cultural Society families volunteer at local shelters, and the Dialogue Over Dinner Program is an ongoing effort to build understanding and trust with the community's Muslim neighbors. The JCS also participates in the Interfaith Roundtable and the Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice.

JCS students participate in tzedakah as each Sunday school class identifies a social action project of interest to them. The tzedakah money they raise is donated to that designated group or societal situation they want to improve. Community service is also a major part of the bar/bat mitzvah program described below.

ADULT ACTIVITIES

In addition to the social action activities and adult education seminars and forums, the Jewish Cultural Society holds regular social activities for its adult members. Pourin' for Purim is the community's annual wine and cheese event. The Jewish Cultural Society is beginning bimonthly Rosh Hodesh gatherings to celebrate the new Jewish month through a short celebration, discussions, and socializing amongst the community's women.

The Jewish Cultural Society's Third Friday Chavurah for the community's older members takes the form of a monthly potluck held in rotation at the homes of its members. Meeting regularly since the 1980s, the group has spawned close friendships and lively conversations.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The Jewish Cultural Society holds Sunday school for young people throughout the school year. Students who become bar or bat mitzvah and complete their eighth grade year, return as paid ***tzofim*** (aides) in the Jewish Cultural School. The tzofim, as well as other junior and senior high school age students staff the Jewish Cultural Society booth at Apples and Honey, the Ann Arbor Jewish community event welcoming the fall holiday season. Additionally, *tzofim* run the crafts and games at the Jewish Cultural Society's Chanukah Party and a Purim Carnival. The *tzofim* also run the Family/Tot Shabbat observance on the first Friday of each month. Youth

who are bar/bat mitzvah age or older are encouraged to attend the annual Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations conference, which takes place each Memorial Day.

JEWISH CULTURAL SCHOOL

The Jewish Cultural School is the Sunday school program of the Jewish Cultural Society. Its mission is to ensure that each student is exposed to the full range of diversity and variety in Jewish culture and history. The school runs from September to May and provides preschool through eighth-grade classes.

The Sunday school program provides young people with opportunities to learn about Jewish life from historical, cultural and ethical perspectives. Jewish holidays are discussed with emphasis on their relevance today. The children also study Jewish life in biblical times and the Middle Ages; Jewish culture in Europe, the Middle East and America; anti-Semitism and the Holocaust; and Secular Humanistic Jewish philosophers.

The sixth grade takes a field trip to the impressive new Holocaust Museum in Farmington Hills. Hands-on activities such as arts and crafts, cooking, music, dance and drama are integrated into the curriculum at every level. Although everything is taught in English, students are introduced to basic key words in Hebrew and Yiddish. The curriculum is continually evolving with the help of student, parent, and teacher input.

Parent involvement in the Jewish Cultural School is welcome and encouraged. Parents may teach, help in their child's classroom, or help in the planning and running of holiday celebrations.

B'NAI MITZVAH PROGRAM

The Jewish Cultural School B'nai Mitzvah program offers a truly unique and meaningful way to bring Jewish children into adulthood. This program begins in sixth grade and is a two-year process that includes independent research on Jewish topics of interest chosen by the students. They distill the information into short oral presentations given at a gathering of the families of the b'nai mitzvah class. The topics have covered everything from Masada to shtetl life in Russia to Marc Chagall to Black/Jewish Relations in the Civil Rights Movement. The students also research their own families' stories, and work on a Jewish identity project that helps them to solidify their own ideas about what it means to be Jewish. In keeping with secular humanistic Jewish emphasis on social action, there is a 30-hour community service commitment to a project chosen by the student. Students have worked for Meals on Wheels, Food Gatherers, Lurie Terrace, Therapeutic Riding Stables and many other local charities.

This effort culminates in a bar or bat mitzvah celebration, usually during the seventh grade. Each ceremony is a unique collaboration written by the students and their parents with help from the B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator and Madrikha who preside over the events. Students usually present their research topic at their mitzvah event. In addition, since the Jewish Cultural Society's focus is on Jewish history and culture, each student who celebrates their bar or bat mitzvah in the community incorporates a cultural presentation whether musical, literary, humorous, or artistic. The mitzvah celebrations are held at the Jewish Community Center or another location of the bar/bat mitzvah family's choice.

After bar or bat mitzvah, students are encouraged to continue in the eighth grade and later become Sunday school *tzofim* (classroom aides), providing a vehicle for them to maintain active participation in the Jewish Cultural Society.

PARDES HANNAH

tel: 761-5324
email: alephdoc@yahoo.com
www.pardeshannah.org
Rene Robbins, contact person

Pardes Hannah, Ann Arbor's Jewish Renewal Community, provides an intimate setting to enter deeply into prayer through chanting, kabbalistic meditation, movement, traditional davening, and openhearted engagement with Torah. Pardes Hannah offers Shabbat morning and Kabbalat Shabbat services, Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur services and a variety of spiritual and educational study sessions and celebrations throughout the cycle of the Jewish year.

Pardes Hannah holds Shabbat morning services on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month at 2010 Washtenaw Avenue, in the Beth Israel Congregation Activity Center, beginning at 10 a.m. Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat services and dessert Onegs are held monthly in members' homes. Services are led by Rabbi Elliot Ginsburg, founder and

spiritual leader of Pardes Hannah, and other skilled leaders in the group.

In the tradition of Jewish Renewal communities (see www.aleph.org), Pardes Hannah is committed to strengthening the three pillars of Jewish life—prayer, study, and action. The goals of Jewish Renewal are to empower individuals to respond to the call of Torah and to provide the resources that assist individuals and communities in the search for a meaningful, Jewish spiritual practice. Jewish Renewal draws on the wellsprings of Jewish tradition, on sacred texts, mystical practices, historical currents, artistic expression, and individuals' own inner truths.

TEMPLE BETH EMETH

2309 Packard Street 48104
tel: 665-4744
fax: 665-9237
TBE@templebethemeth.org
www.templebethemeth.org
Robert D. Levy, rabbi
Ann Z. Rose, cantor
Wendy Lawrence,president
Ronnie Simon, executive director
Terri Ginsburg, director of education

Temple Beth Emeth is a Reform Congregation, affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism, committed to enhancing religious life in Ann Arbor through religious, spiritual, cultural, educational, social action and social programming. The congregation strives to create a sense of family, a "caring community," for all its members—a place in which its members can celebrate their joys or share difficult moments surrounded by people who care.

SERVICES

Providing a spectrum of Shabbat services is one of the ways TBE meets the needs of a diverse congregation. Each Shabbat TBE celebrates with three services and dinner. Every Friday evening a 5:30 pm tot Shabbat service is offered followed by dinner, a lively 6:45 p.m. Shira (Shabbat in Song) and at 7:30 p.m., a service using the new Reform prayer book, *Mishkan Tefilah*.

There are many opportunities for special Shabbat celebrations throughout the year such as Sisterhood Shabbat, New Member Shabbat, Teacher Appreciation Shabbat, and others. A detailed schedule of services may be found at the TBE website: www.templebethemeth.org.

Holidays provide the perfect venue for festive events. TBE often has a family Sukkot picnic and decorating night. The Family Chanukah Service and the Brotherhood Latke Dinner have become TBE traditions. The Second night Seder celebrates Passover in the spirit of community. A meaningful Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Memorial Service is conducted by a group of children and relatives of survivors

MUSIC

Jewish music plays an important role at TBE under the direction of Cantor Annie Rose. The Adult Choir, Kol Halev, sings during High Holy Day services, on a monthly basis at Friday night services and at concerts throughout the year. The choir arranged a concert tour of Bulgaria, Romania, and Greece, in the summer of 2004, and a concert tour of Argentina in the summer of 2007, performing Jewish music in small communities that do not usually have the opportunity to hear performances of this type. The Youth Choir performs in services and concerts at the temple and in the community. Middle School Shir Chadash and High School Shir Chadash, the student choral and instrumental ensembles, perform in services and concerts and periodically hold "Cafe TBE" evenings of music in an informal cafe atmosphere. A late-winter concert by all four ensembles is one of the highlights of the year.

EDUCATION

TBE's adult education program offers a wide range of classes and special activities throughout the year. These include: semester courses in special topics, Shabbat retreats and other special educational events. (See section on adult education for details)

Under the direction of Terri Ginsburg, Temple Beth Emeth Religious and Hebrew Schools offer a strong educational program based on guidelines from the Reform movement for children in preschool through high school. (See section on TBE Schools for more information.)

SOCIAL ACTION

The mission of the Social Action Committee of Temple Beth Emeth is to assist the congregation in applying Jewish values to promoting social justice through aid, education, and advocacy. These efforts to promote tikkun olam are concentrated on selected issues each year that are of concern to local or global communities. Social action has a prominent role at TBE, taking many forms.

The committee's priorities for involvement and programs for the coming year

include: human rights and Israeli-Palestinian relations (education and outreach), hunger and debt relief (including support of Mazon and Jubilee USA), economic challenges in our region, Sudan and Darfur, and green (sustainability). Additional areas of concern include civil liberties, interfaith relations, religious freedom, and peace.

Ongoing activities include long-time involvement with the local Interfaith Hospitality Network, the Delonis Center, and several other community outreach programs. Mitzvah Day is an annual one-day service event with several hundred volunteers providing services to many agencies in the county.

SISTERHOOD AND BROTHERHOOD

The Sisterhood is a vibrant organization with broad-based activities that support both its members and the congregation as a whole. Members also run the gift shop that offers a wide selection of Judaica, gifts, and special order items. Brotherhood is both a service and educational group for the congregation, sponsoring the latke dinner, building the sukkah, and holding both social and educational meetings for its members. (See additional sections on Men's and Women's Organizations for details.)

TEMPLE BETH EMETH ADULT EDUCATION/PROGRAMS

tel: 665-4744

Adult educational opportunities at TBE are many and varied. They include semester courses in special topics, Basic Judaism courses, and study with Rabbi Levy and Cantor Rose, Shabbat Morning Torah Study, a Shabbaton (extensive Shabbat programming) with a scholar-in-residence, book clubs, bi-monthly Men's Torah Study, Shavuot educational programs, and a themed lecture series. Programs are open to temple members and to members of the community at large.

CARING COMMUNITY

The Caring Community program provides a congregation-wide opportunity to serve fellow congregants in times of joy and sorrow. Through the Caring Community Volunteer Corps (CCVC) congregants assist each other with meals for families with new babies, for congregants that are ill or recovering from surgery, or for a house of mourning. CCVC also provides rides during the day to doctor's appointments and rides to and from services and events at TBE.

Bikkur Cholim provides regular visits to members of the TBE community who are in the hospital, nursing or assisted living centers, or at home. Nachamu (TBE's Bereavement Group) conducts *shiva* services at congregant's homes. Welcoming Services connects new members to events and TBE groups of interest. An Interfaith couple's support group meets to discuss common issues. Caregivers

support groups meet often to support adult children caring for parents locally and out of town.

New Beginnings meets for six weeks in the spring to explore issues of conversion and share information and support. Jewish meditation workshops and sessions are conducted weekly throughout the year, all levels are welcome.

Caring Community is facilitated by the director of congregational services with the assistance of congregant leadership, who are committed to making TBE an inclusive and participatory community.

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Services and special celebrations are planned throughout the year on festivals and other holidays. During Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the congregation offers traditional services along with family services, youth services and a special service for tots and their parents. Sukkot and Simchat Torah always include an outdoor sukkah decorating party, services, dancing and an adult study opportunity. The Brotherhood sponsors a latke dinner each Chanukah, which is followed by a service lit by everyone's menorahs. In the spring, a large annual second night seder is held. Every year, the Generations After group (TBE children & relatives of survivors) write a meaningful Yom Hashoah service for the observance of Holocaust Remembrance Day and a supplemental afternoon service for Yom Kippur. Spring brings a fun megillah reading and Purim carnival. Shavuot brings the special confirmation service that is written and led by the confirmation class as well as an evening adult study session.

TOT PROGRAMS

TBE offers a weekly 5:30 p.m. Tot Shabbat service conducted by Rabbi Robert Levy and Cantor Annie Rose followed by a special dinner. Additional holiday-themed programs with crafts and music occur monthly. Tot Chanukah, held in conjunction with the annual family service has become a popular event, and tot activities are part of the annual Purim carnival. A committee of parents works with the director of congregational services to plan monthly holiday programs. The group continues to provide baby bags, created by the group to welcome the newest members of the TBE community

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

TNT, the 20's and 30's group at TBE for young Jewish adults, single or married, meets for both cultural and social events. Canoeing, potluck Shabbat dinners, and volunteering at a community organization are some of the events done in the past year. TNT frequently co-sponsors events with other local Jewish young adult groups. The Renaissance Group (RG), for members who are aged 50 and over, holds potluck dinners, game nights, and attends theater events, as well as other social activities in an effort to encourage connections among members who no longer have children in the Religious School. Ruach (pronounced Ru'akh, meaning 'spirit'), is for members who feel they are in-between TNT and RG and are looking for active programs. Previous events have been Whirlyball, a Murder Mystery Dinner Night and a Passover Wine Tasting.

TEMPLE BETH EMETH RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

tel: 665-5817
tginsburg@templebethemeth.org
Terri Ginsburg, director

Temple Beth Emeth strives to educate its students to become proficient in the skills needed to be life-long Jewish learners. TBE believes that this is best accom-

plished within the framework of a vibrant Jewish community. TBE provides students with a curriculum based on Reform Jewish educational philosophy in a manner that is creative, engaging and intellectually stimulating. It employs high-quality teachers who are knowledgeable, enthusiastic and committed to Judaism. TBE involves the families of its students in a variety of exciting family education programs.

The Religious and Hebrew School programs serve students from preschool age through grade 12. The curriculum includes studies in areas such as customs and traditions, Torah, holidays, life cycle, prayer, music, history, theology, Israel, immigration, comparative Judaism, the Holocaust and Jewish ethics. The curriculum is based upon recommendations from the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. There are 410 students enrolled in Religious School and 200 who attend Hebrew classes, which meet on Monday or Wednesday afternoons.

LOWER GRADES

Religious School for preschool-5th grade students is held at TBE on Saturday mornings in two sessions: 8:30–10:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

A monthly parent-child class focusing on Jewish holidays and home rituals is available for three-year-olds. Parents participate in special programs related to the curricula offered during Religious School. Parenting workshops are offered on a variety of topics throughout the year. A Jewish artist is invited to perform for students and their families each year. On Shabbat morning there is a Torah study session, followed by services in the chapel, during the first session of Religious School. These activities help to develop a sense of community and encourage parents to continue their own educational growth.

HEBREW

Students are introduced to the Hebrew alphabet in second grade, and formal Hebrew School begins in third grade and continues through eighth grade. The Hebrew program focuses on developing Hebrew reading skills and an understanding of the meaning and structure of the prayers. Students are introduced to conversational Hebrew and grammar. TBE offers Conversational Hebrew in 8th grade and many of TBE's high school students study Conversational Hebrew through Keshet, the Community Resource Hebrew Program sponsored by TBE and the Jewish Federation.

BAR/BAT MITZVAH TRAINING

Cantor Annie Rose offers a bar/bat mitzvah training program that includes class work and individual tutoring. Students attend weekly classes and private sessions beginning approximately one year before the student's bar/bat mitzvah. There is a fee for this program.

MUSIC

Students enjoy a strong Jewish music program, led by an experienced song leader as part of the weekly Saturday morning program. Cantor Annie Rose leads a Youth Choir for students in grades 3–5 and Shir Chadash, vocal and instrumental groups for middle and high school students. These musical groups are very popular and meet at times that are coordinated with Hebrew and Religious School sessions. The students have a variety of opportunities to perform throughout the year.

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Sixth through twelfth grades have class on Sunday evenings from 6–7:30 p.m. The 170 students participating in this program enjoy sharing pizza and social time before the formal class session begins. Seventh graders study mitzvot and participate in a variety of social action projects. The 8th grade class, which studies modern Jewish history, ends with a trip to Jewish New York. The 10th grade confirmation class is taught by Rabbi Levy and culminates in a beautiful Shabbat service which is written and led by the students. Eleventh and twelfth grade seminar options include courses such as "Contemporary Jewish Culture", "An in-depth Study of Genesis" and "Jews and the Movies".

MADRICHIM PROGRAM

Ninth grade students participate in a yearlong training program, which prepares them for working as a *madrich/a* (classroom aide). Students in grades ten through twelve work as office or classroom aides. The 49 madrichim who worked in the classrooms last year served as positive role models for the younger students and added a wonderful energy to the school.

ADVANCED HEBREW STUDY FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

High school students are able to receive public school credit (through the Community Resource program) for studying Hebrew language. There were 21 students involved in the Keshet Hebrew CR program last year. This program is co-sponsored by the Jewish Federation and private donors.

TBE YOUTH GROUPS

tel: 665-4744
email: amorrison@templebethemeth.org
Abe Morrison, youth coordinator

YOUTH (AARTY) — FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Under the leadership of its board, AARTY has multifaceted programming in the areas of spirituality/religion, community, social action, social events and education. AARTY members plan and implement their own programs, guided by their advisor. Social action programs include the sponsorship of a High Holy Day food drive, Cookie-a-thon and other programs serving the community. Members of AARTY lead High Holy Day services for high school and middle school students. Once a month, AARTY holds Shabbat services, which include creative liturgy and music. Affiliated with the North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY), AARTY provides members with opportunities to meet other Jewish high school students at regional gatherings on both the state and national levels. NFTY also sponsors a youth leadership summer camp in New York, regional summer camps and programs in Israel.

KADIMA — MIDDLE SCHOOL

Kadima provides opportunities for middle school students to meet on a monthly basis for programs in the social action, religious, cultural and social areas. Kadima members meet with their advisor to design and plan their programs. During the course of the year activities include joint programming with other middle school-age youth groups from Reform temples in the region. Recent programs have included a shul-in, visits to area attractions, holiday services and retreats.

RISHONIM — 3RD–5TH GRADERS

Rishonim meets monthly to give 4th and 5th graders an opportunity to socialize in a setting outside of religious school. Events include holiday celebrations and other social activities.

older adult programs

SPICE OF LIFE

2935 Birch Hollow Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
tel: 734-971-0990
fax: 734-677-0109
email: merrill@jfsannarbor.org
Merrill Poliner, Older Adult Program coordinator

The Jewish Community Center's Older Adult Program, known as SPICE (Social, Physical, Intellectual, Cultural and Educational programming), offers activities

for senior citizens. Programming is held Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, with some special presentations on Thursdays. Homemade dairy lunches are served Tuesdays and Thursdays.

In conjunction with the JCC, Jewish Family Services (JFS) helps older adults maintain their independence and enhance their involvement with the community. Geriatric social workers provide case management, assessment, short-term counseling, home visits, crisis intervention, patient advocacy (through our Advocacy Connection program), information, and referrals for older adults and their families. Volunteers provide friendly visiting and telephone reassurance to homebound seniors.

In collaboration with the JCC, JFS provides a range of social, educational, and cultural programming for seniors, including workshops, presentations, and holiday celebrations (such as a community-wide Senior Seder). Groups meeting weekly include creative writing, current events, literature, creative crafts, and mah jongg. Aerobic and strength-training exercise classes meet twice weekly, as well as social support groups for men and for women. The Yiddish group meets monthly, with some

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members gathering weekly to converse and read in Yiddish. A variety of weekly presentations by guest speakers and entertainers aim to inform and stimulate. Special programs include a discussion series on selected topics, a monthly playreading group, and Improv for Fun. Washtenaw Community College offers free emeritus classes at the JCC.

A new program, 'Grandparent University,' is a group in which members discuss everything from the joys of grand-parenting to the challenges of juggling the needs of multiple generations. Each of the 12 monthly sessions will be facilitated by a professional and will include opportunities to explore long distance vs. close distance grandparents, conflict resolution, generational differences, and more. Meetings are held the last Thursday of each month.

The annual Matinee Musicale series at the JCC features members of the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. Intergenerational activities are held with the JCC Early Childhood Center and the Hebrew Day School.

Many seniors enjoy participating in the Senior Advisory Council and volunteering with lunches, mailings, Jewish Family Services, and JCC fundraisers.

The SPICE program is a unique resource for the Jewish community, providing information, involvement, and opportunities for developing new friendships and for welcoming newcomers moving into the Ann Arbor area. It validates the talent and expertise of seniors and welcomes all who want to add some SPICE to their lives.

adult activities

BRIT TZEDEK V'SHALOM

tel: 975-9045
email: annarbor@btvshalom.org
Aaron Ahuvia

Brit Tzedek v'Shalom, the Jewish Alliance for Justice and Peace, is a national organization of American Jews deeply committed to Israel's well-being through the achievement of a negotiated settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Members believe that the vast majority of Israelis and Palestinians long for an enduring peace, and that security for Israel can only be achieved through the establishment of

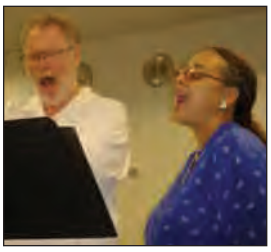
an economically and politically viable Palestinian state. Brit Tzedek has over 40,000 supporters in 38 chapters nationwide, and is the largest group of its kind. Through education, advocacy, local activities and work with the media, they seek to direct U.S. foreign policy toward the realization of a negotiated peace. Brit Tzedek welcomes participation at all levels, from simply joining as a member on its website, to working as an activist.

Congressional Advocacy: The Ann Arbor Chapter meets regularly with Senator Levin, Senator Stabenow, Representative Dingell and their staffs about Brit Tzedek positions on Middle East issues.

CHAVERIM B'SHIRIM

tel: 663-1978
email: mkrimm@umich.edu
Marilyn Krimm, director

Chaverim B'Shirim is an all-volunteer choir, performing music by Jewish composers whose music spans from the 1600s of Salamone de Rossi to the music of today. The choir has performed the music of George Gershwin, Isaac Dunayevsky, Kurt Weill, Naomi Schemer, Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart, Richard Rodgers, Oscar Hammerstein, and Stephen Sondheim. Last fall,they performed music of Frank Loesser, music from *Guys and Dolls, How To Succeed In Business Without Really* Trying, and *Hans Christian Andersen*.



Director Marilyn Krimm has a doctor of musical arts degree from the University of Michigan. She has had extensive experience with Jewish music and choral groups, here and in New York.

Singers of all ages and vocal levels are welcome. A brief audition is required. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings, 7:30–9 p.m., at the Jewish Community Center of Washtenaw County.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

4290 Jackson Rd. 48103
tel: 822-0220
fax: 822-0226
email: jeckel@alphahouse-ihn.org
www-comnet.org
Julie Steiner, executive director
Joel Eckel, volunteer coordinator

The Interfaith Hospitality Network provides shelter, meals and assistance to homeless families in Washtenaw County. The program utilizes existing community resources. Each host congregation provides volunteers and meals for 3–6 families for one week, every two to three months, on a rotating schedule. Social service agencies provide screening and referrals.

ISRAELI DANCING OF ANN ARBOR

tel: 971-0990
email: a2rikud@gmail.com
Laura Steiner, coordinator

The Israeli Dancing of Ann Arbor group meets Thursday evenings, 7:30–10 p.m., at the Jewish Community Center of Washtenaw County. Every week, instructors Cheryl and Amnon will teach from 7:30–8:30 p.m., followed by open dancing until 10 p.m. Newcomers are always welcome to join in. Learn the latest Israeli dances and request your favorites.

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•Teen Program
The Jewish Cultural Society
A Secular Humanistic Community

JEWISH ANN ARBOR SINGLES)

tel: 483-8352
email: j_aa_s@yahoo.com
Roann Altman, coordinator

Jewish Ann Arbor Singles, or JAAS, sponsors quarterly social events for Jewish singles ages 35 and over in Ann Arbor and the surrounding areas. The goal of the group is to provide a warm and welcoming atmosphere where Jewish singles can meet, network and have a good time.

JCC YIDDISH GROUP

tel: 761-2765
Rachel Juni

The JCC Yiddish Group meets weekly to enjoy Yiddish conversation, literature and culture. On the second Friday of the month, the group meets at the JCC for special programs. Other weeks, the group meets for informal conversation and readings in Yiddish..

MICHIGAN COALITION ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND JEWISH LIFE - MI-COEJL

c/o Jewish Community Council
6735 Telegraph Road, Suite 205
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301
tel: (248) 642-5393
email: mi-coejl@jfmd.org
website: www.mi-coejl.org
Betsy Winkelman, chair

MI-COEJL provides environmental information, education and inspiration rooted in Jewish text. The group teaches application of these principles to everyday life resulting in sustainable practices for energy savings and other positive results in our tradition of caring for the earth.

Contact MI-COEJL for presentations on global warming and other resources.

JEWISH PROFESSIONALS OF ANN ARBOR

email: mirasussman@hotmail.com
email: mattweingarden@gmail.com
Mira Sussman, Matt Weingarden

Michigan Jewish Professionals was established in 2006 to provide local Jewish professionals with opportunities for networking and professional development. The group is open to anyone who works in a professional capacity at an area Jewish

agency or is a Jewish professional with strong Ann Arbor connections. The group meets monthly (September–June) and holds special events throughout the year.

This year the group is launching the Yitro Project, providing Jewish professionals with group and individual mentorship. For more information or to be added to the groups mailing list, contact Mira Sussman or Matt Weingarden

YIDISH TISH (YIDDISH CONVERSATIONAL GROUP)

tel: 936-2367
Elliot H. Gertel, facilitator

Spend a *heymish* hour in *der alter heym* speaking and listening to *mame-loshn,* Yiddish. This informal conversational group, which has been meeting at various venues on and near the University of Michigan central campus for the last several years, is free and open to all lovers of Yiddish language and culture, no matter what level of proficiency, regardless of age, and whether affiliated with the university or not. All manner of topics are discussed, with an effort to improve members' Yiddish skills, especially vocabulary. Everyone is welcome at any time to join in, or to just listen. Bring your own lunch, if you like, or purchase something from the café. The only requirement is that you enjoy! *Iz, kumt un hot hanoe!*

The group meets every Tuesday (except major Jewish holidays and January 1, July 4, and the last week of December) all year round at 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor near the North University entrance in the Michigan League, 911 N. University.

MOSAIC OUTDOOR CLUB

PO Box 250691
West Bloomfield, MI 48322
email: michigan@mosaicoutdoor.org
website: www.mosaicoutdoor.org/michigan

MOCMI is a unique, non-profit organization, dedicated to bringing Jewish people together to enjoy the great outdoors. The club welcomes singles, couples, and families. Membership in the club offers a unique opportunity for the members to: foster a greater appreciation of the outdoors, develop an environmental awareness, gain valuable leadership and outdoor skills, and become a more active part of the Michigan community of Jewish outdoor enthusiasts. Visit the website for more information on events.

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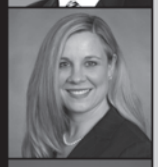

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RAOUL WALLENBERG ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

915 East Washington St., 48109
tel: 764-5536
email: wascione@umich.edu
Wendy Ascione, MSW, annual giving officer

Raoul Wallenberg proved to the world that one person can make a difference in the face of evil. A Swedish citizen who graduated with the highest honors from the University of Michigan in 1935, Wallenberg volunteered during World War II to serve as a U.S. envoy in Hungary. There, his incomparable personal courage and ingenuity saved 100,000 Jewish lives. Today Raoul Wallenberg is recognized as one of the great humanitarians of the twentieth century; he is also one of the University of Michigan's most distinguished alumni.

The Wallenberg Endowment funds an annual lecture and medal presentation to honor this international hero, whose character was partly shaped by his years in school here. Since 1990, this endowed program at the University of Michigan has awarded an annual Wallenberg Medal to an individual whose humanitarian actions exemplify those of Raoul Wallenberg. The medalist program has brought the twentieth century's most outstanding humanitarians to campus to tell their stories.

Wallenberg Medal recipients include, among others, Nobel laureates Elie Wiesel; His Holiness the Dalai Lama; Miep Gies, the woman who supported Anne Frank and her family in hiding; Jan Karski, a courier for the Polish underground during World War II; Helen Suzman, a member of the South African parliament; Per Unger, the Swedish ambassador to Hungary during World War II; Marion Pritchard, a Dutch woman who rescued Jewish babies during World War II; Simcha Rotem, a Warsaw ghetto fighter; the mime Marcel Marceau, who as a member of the French Resistance smuggled Jewish children into Switzerland; United States Congressman and civil rights leader John Lewis; and Paul Rusesabagina, a hotel manager who sheltered more than a thousand people from certain death during Rwanda's civil strife.

The 2007 Wallenberg Medal will be awarded to Dr. Cynthia Maung, founder of the Mae Tao Clinic which provides medical treatment to refugees and migrant workers crossig the dangerous border from Burma into Tahiland. The clinic also trains backpack medics—teams of doctors who trek into the Burmese jungle to treat people with no access to medicine. Dr. Maung will receive the Medal and deliver this year's Wallenberg Lecture on Thursday, October 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Rackham Auditorium on the University's campus.

The Wallenberg Committee deeply believes that young people must be told the story of Raoul Wallenberg. When Wallenberg's sister, Nina Lagergren, came from Sweden in the fall of 2001 to accept the Wallenberg Medal on behalf of her brother, she emphasized in her lecture the importance of reaching out to young people. It is, after all, the best way to begin to change the world. The Wallenberg Committee believes that the example of Raoul Wallenberg can turn young people from helpless cynicism to resolute hopefulness and to awaken them to the belief that one person can make a difference.

men's organizations

BROTHERHOOD, TEMPLE BETH EMETH

tel: 327-9149
email: daddywaggs@comcast
website: www.templebethemeth.org/tbe/brotherhood
Marvin Wagner, president

Temple Beth Emeth Brotherhood is an organization dedicated to nurturing men's involvement in Temple life. Its goal is to assist members to become better Jews and better men through increased participation in Temple and Brotherhood activities. Active involvement in the congregation and the community brings members together spiritually and socially. Brotherhood is dedicated to providing programming that is meaningful and relevant to its members.

TBE Brotherhood is one of 250 local affiliates of the MRJ-Men of Reform Judaism (Formerly North American Federation of Temple Brotherhoods) with 25,000 members across North America dedicated to the ideals of Reform Judaism and a role for men in congregational life. In addition, the group looks for opportunities to participate in national programming and events.

An up to date calendar can be found on the group's webpage, as well as photo's of past events.

2008-2009 schedule of activities:

- Bi-weekly coffee corner (September through April)
- Monthly Limudim lecture series
- Raising and lowering the sukkah at TBE
- Ralph Katz in Concert Klezmer, classical, and much more—October 25
- Brotherhood cooks for Annual Chanukah Latke Dinner—December 26
- "Have a Heart" Give Blood - Red Cross Blood Drive—February 14
- Monthly Men's Rap/Discussion Group
- Men's Seder—March 31
- Facilitating an annual Shabbat Service—May 1
- Annual Brotherhood Retreat
- Summer softball

MEN'S CLUB, BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION

tel: 665-9897
email:office@bethisrael-aa.org

Members of the Beth Israel Congregation Men's Club implement several important projects over the course of the congregation year. They maintain the congregation website, organize the ushers over the High Holidays, construct the Synagogue Sukkah each year and they host, in concert with Men's Clubs around the world, the World Wide Wrap, which teaches and encourages the laying of Tefillin by both men and women. In addition they organize and sponsor the annual Gershowitz Memorial Shabbat, which encourages men and women to learn to lead new parts of the service. They also organize the distribution of Yom HaShoah memorial candles to the congregation

women's organizations

HADASSAH

P.O. Box 1734 48106
tel: 668-6821
email: yoshka1942@aol.com
Barbara Bergman, chapter president

Hadassah is both the largest women's organization and the largest Jewish mem-

bership organization in the United States. Hadassah of Ann Arbor, an organization of over 450 members, has a rich history of activism. It is an organization for women of all ages, providing social outlets and educational opportunities that raise awareness and empower women. The chapter's programs address health, cultural, political and spiritual issues that matter.

Ann Arbor Hadassah has implemented several national programs, such as Violence Against Women; Healthy Women, Healthy Lives; It's in the Genes and The Promise of Stem Cells.

Local Hadassah activities include educational meetings and several interest groups including: Maj Jong, Bridge, Book Club and Nurses' Forum. The national "Check It Out" program teaches local Ann Arbor high school students about taking responsibility

for their own health and seeking the health information they require.

The chapter hosts various fundraising efforts, such as a rummage re-sale, theatre parties, shopping days and a donor campaign. Programs that are benefited by the fundraisers include the Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem, the Career Counseling Insititute, the Hadassah College of Technology, Youth Aliyah, the Jewish National Fund and Young Judaea. Hadassah is proud that 94 percent of its fundraising dollars goes directly to such worthwhile projects locally, nationally, in Israel and throughout the world. Life membership is $360; annual dues are $36.

MIKVAH ISRAEL

Chabad House, 715 Hill Street 48104
tel: 995-3276
Esther Goldstein

The community Mikvah (ritual bath), located at Chabad House is available for use by the Jewish community. This Mikvah facility employs a filtering pool heating system and is the only such facility between Detroit and Chicago. Mikvah Israel supports and maintains the Mikvah. A nominal donation or membership is asked of users. The women of Mikvah Israel act as *shomerot* (assistants) for those women desiring to use the Mikvah.

Mikvah Israel also provides educational material for brides and grooms and anyone interested in learning more about the Jewish marriage and Mikvah. Speakers are available upon request for your organization..

WOMEN'S LEAGUE, BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION

tel: 665-9897
email: gerberf @comcast.net/
Robin Aronson and Marilyn Berk, co-presidents
Florence Gerber, membership chair

Beth Israel Women's League consists of 140 members who support the Beth Israel Congregation, its religious school and the Jewish Theological Seminary. Through volunteer programs and projects geared toward education, social action, spirituality and religious observance, Women's League members have opportunities to expand their knowledge of and their commitment to a vibrant and vital Jewish community.

Women's League presents gifts to all Beth Israel bar/bat mitzvah students. They also support the congregations' families who are in mourning with shiva trays. Other Women's League activities include sending Beth Israel Religious School teachers to the annual Conference of America Jewish Educators (CAJE), coordinating a program for minyan participation and support of an adult bar/bat mitzvah class. The Women's League Gift Shop is open on Sunday mornings during regular religious school hours from 9:30 a.m.-noon, or by appointment. (Call Doris Miller at 662-5926.) The gift shop carries a wide selection of Judaic art useful Judaic items. Miller will also search for hard to find items or assist in ordering items found on the internet. The gift shop is open to everyone in the Ann Arbor community.

The Beth Israel Chapter of Women, League for Conservative Judaism (WLCJ), an international network of Conservative Sisterhoods, was established in November 1948

TEMPLE BETH EMETH SISTERHOOD (WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM)

2309 Packard Road 48104
tel: 665-4744
fax: 665-9237
www.templebethemeth.org
Hillary Handwerger (662-0154 or hillaryh@ ix.netcom.com), president
Janice Tainsh (at 996-4552 or jktainsh@sbcglobal. net), vice-president of membership

TBE Sisterhood is also the Ann Arbor chapter of Women of Reform Judaism. In addition to wonderful social occasions, the group organizes a variety of activities and programs that support congregational, local and international WRJ initiatives. Active volunteers make for a friendly and welcoming way for women to engage in TBE community life. Non-TBE members are also welcome to join.

Sweet Beginnings is an award-winning "review party" on the first day of Hebrew School in the fall. Each bar and bat mitzvah receives a kiddush cup from Sisterhood, and college students receive gift packages at Chanukah and Purim. First-time Jewish campers receive scholarship support. Sisterhood contributes to the TBE Youth Advisor's salary, to AARTY convention travel, and additional funds to the TBE religious school.

The entire Jewish Community is welcome to shop at the Sisterhood-run TBE Gift Shop which carries a wide variety of Judaica in a broad price range. The shop is open Mondays and Wednesdays during Hebrew School, Fridays before services, and Sundays, 5:30–7 pm. It is also open by appointment. Contact Amy Paberzs (668-6842; amypab@hotmail.com) or Genie Wolfson (662-3695; genie@ebonsai.com).

Local non-profits, especially those that benefit women and children such as Safe House, the Neutral Zone, and Community Action Network, receive donations from TBE Sisterhood. Sisterhood members staff Ronald McDonald House during the Christian holidays and wrap Christmas gifts at Mott Children's Hospital.

Through the WRJ affiliation, Sisterhood contributes to the Hebrew Union Collage (rabbinic and cantorial scholarships), the Jewish Braille Institute, the World Union for Progressive Judaism (WUPJ), and several Reform nursery schools in Israel. Sisterhood board members benefit from WRJ leadership training and resource sharing at district and national meetings.

In addition to these programs, the group hosts informal monthly dinners or lunches, afternoon and evening mah jongg groups, periodic lectures or workshops. Sisterhood co-sponsors monthly Rosh Chodesh services. This year's Welcoming Brunch will be held on September 14.

ORT AMERICA, ANN ARBOR CHAPTER

tel: 668- 6449 or 665-5061
website: www.ortamerica.org
Mary Schuman and Joan Levitt, co-presidents

ORT America is a non-profit non-governmental organization with nearly 400 chapters in the United States. Formerly known as Women's American ORT, the organization is now officially united with American ORT. ORT America provides support to the ORT global network of 800 schools and training programs with 120 fields of study in 56 countries.

ORT was established in 1880 in Tsarist Russia to provide vocational and technological education for Jews. Today, through its network of schools, colleges and centers, ORT strives to meet the training and education needs of its nearly 270,000 students, of all ages and backgrounds, in Israel, the former Soviet Union, Latin America, the United States, and many other countries, so that they can compete in the rapidly changing market of the 21st century.

Close to home, the Hermelin ORT Resource Center at the Jewish Community Center of West Bloomfield offers a wide range of classes and programs, including the very successful Better Jobs Opportunity Program which is providing job skills training to the unemployed and underemployed in southeastern Michigan.

The Ann Arbor Chapter of ORT America holds programs, social events and fundraising events throughout the year. The chapter

also sponsors a monthly Book Group and Cinema Club. Beautiful greeting cards and tributes are available from the chapter.

On September 7, the group's Opening Brunch, "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" will honor the original founding members from 1968. Prospective members are very welcome. Annual dues start at $36. Lifetime memberships are also available..

ROSH CHODESH GROUP

tel: 769-3078
Esther Goldstein

The group meets monthly to celebrate each new Hebrew month. Meetings feature refreshments, entertainment, learning and open discussions on contemporary topics. In the past, programs have included a musical concert, Jewish crafts workshop, blintz-making and lectures. Gatherings are informal and are open to all women. Call for information on upcoming events.

YAD SHOSHANA

tel: 994-9832
Shternie Zwiebel

Yad Shoshana was organized in 1990 in memory of Shoshana Sternberg, a local woman who touched the hearts of many. The group gives assistance to Jews in need in Washtenaw County. Activities include visiting the sick and elderly, preparing meals and helping new immigrants assimilate.

ZEITOUNA — ARAB & JEWISH WOMEN WORKING FOR PEACE & JUSTICE

Benita Kaimowitz
tel: 663-8846
email: benitak@aol.com

In the summer of 2002, a small group of Arab and Jewish women made an intentional decision to get to know each other better. They shared a wish to end the increasing polarization of our communities both locally and globally. They named their group Zeitouna, Arabic for ìOlive tree.î

The group consists of six Jewish and six Arab women, meeting in each other's homes on alternate weeks with regularity, sharing food, narratives, and intimacy, but above all practicing dialogue.

Zeitouna's mission is to embody and promote the peaceful and just coexistence of the Arab and Jewish peoples through connection, trust, empathy and actions focused on the creation of a sustainable future for Palestine and Israel.

The women of Zeitouna "refuse to be enemies" and engage in the following types of activities:

- Education: Teach-ins, presentations, seminars, panel discussions, reading circles
- Social actions: Support of a Child Development Training Center in the West Bank; Participation in sales of Palestinian Embroidery.
- Personal growth: Through the sharing of personal narratives, reading of pertinent articles and books, practice of dialogue and travel together to Israel and Palestine in 2006, members deepen their understanding and experience of the relationship between personal transformation and socio-political transformation.

The women of Zeitouna have helped form other local groups, believing strongly that any group can create similar relationships and interconnection using the fundamental power of dialogue and other creative efforts.

One of the members of Zeitouna, Laurie White, a film maker, has documented the group's evolution. For more information, contact Laurie at lauriewhite@eyedream1world.com.

campus organizations

HILLEL AT EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

965 Washtenaw Avenue
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
tel: 482-0456
fax: 482-0440
email: info@emuhillel.org or hillel@emich.edu
website: www.emuhillel.org
Clara Silver, executive director
Ricky Kamil, program associate

Hillel at Eastern Michigan University (Hillel at EMU) is a pluralistic Jewish organization serving the estimated 1,000 Jewish students at EMU. It is the only Jewish organization in Ypsilanti, and often the only Jewish connection for EMU students during their college years. Hillel at EMU began over ten years ago in a small campus office. Hillel at EMU now operates out of a beautifully renovated house on Washtenaw Avenue across from the EMU campus.

Hillel at EMU programs and events have more than doubled in number in the last several years, and Hillel at EMU regularly partners with EMU to bring major speakers and events to campus. Hillel at EMU also provides traditional Shabbat Dinners twice per month, which are extremely popular, as well as holiday observances and opportunities for more traditional Jewish exploration. In addition to serving EMU's growing Jewish population, Hillel at EMU works to educate the broader campus community and advocate for EMU's Jewish students. Over 85 percent of EMU graduates remain in Michigan. Hillel at EMU is dedicated to empowering and engaging Jewish students, strengthening their connection to Judaism, and guiding them to become future Jewish community leaders. In addition, EMU graduates more teachers than any other school in Michigan, and is one of the top education schools in the country. Therefore, Hillel at EMU places an emphasis on ensuring that they have experience with, and an understanding of, Judaism.

GROUPS AND INITIATIVES

Student Program and Resource Council (SPARC). This new initiative brings together student programming interns and students active in planning Hillel at EMU programs to network, brainstorm, and organize cool new events.

Alternative Spring Break (ASB). Instead of going on vacation during spring break, participants in Hillel at EMU's "ASB" program travel to cities around the country to volunteer. Students have gone to Baltimore to work with Jewish children with special needs, as well as two different trips to Florida to work with Habitat for Humanity.

Taglit-birthright Israel. Hillel at EMU offers a free 10-day trip to Israel through Taglit-birthright israel to Jews age 18-26 who have never been to Israel on an organized peer trip. This trip is offered annually and is truly a life-changing experience.

First-Year Students of Hillel (FYSH). This program is led by a student intern who facilitate first-year students' transition to college life. Students new to EMU will have opportunities to learn about college life, connect both with other new students and learn about the resources and support that Hillel at EMU can offer them.

Gaygle, EMU's Jewish Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Allies student group, provides an accepting atmosphere where LGBT students from any Jewish background are included in and comfortable with Jewish programming and events on EMU's campus.

The Jewish Education Students Group promotes cross-cultural understanding in EMU's School of Education. It provides Jewish students with opportunities to network with one another and to explore professional possibilities as Jewish educators. Jewish Ed students provide important opportunities for non-Jewish education students to gain a greater understanding of Judaism as it relates to their future students.

Shabbat Students. Hillel at EMU provides Kabbalat Shabbat Services and Shabbat dinner an average of twice per month. The Shabbat Students create meaningful and engaging Shabbat programs, including themed Shabbat dinners, discussions with local rabbis, and the annual "Family Shabbat."

HILLEL FOUNDATION, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

1429 Hill Street 48104
tel: 769-0500
fax: 769-1934
email: umhillel@umich.edu
website: www.umhillel.org
Michael Brooks, executive director
Rabbi Nathan Martin, assistant director
Joel Marcovitch, assistant director
Rabbi Rod Glogower, staf associate
Allison Sheren, program director
Tilly Shames, Berman Fellow
Sallie Abelson, development director
Marci Raver, director of institutional advancement
Diane Redman, comptroller
Emil Boch, executive chef

Hillel is the second largest student programming organization at the University of Michigan and serves as an umbrella organization for over 30 independent student groups. These groups represent a diverse spectrum of approaches to Jewish life that combines the religious (traditional and alternative), cultural, intellectual, political and social. At U-M Hillel students work hard and play hard. Groups are peer-led and students gain invaluable leadership skills from their experiences. Hillel is one of the best places to hang out on the U-M campus whether to catch a movie, enjoy a gourmet kosher meal (lunch and dinner served daily) or to use as a study base (the Hillel building has wireless internet access). There is also a wide array of information about jobs, scholarships, study abroad, visiting Israel, programs happening on campus and volunteer opportunities in the community. Short-term personal counseling is also available for students.

ISRAEL GROUPS AND PROGRAMS

AMI, the American Movement for Israel, is the U-M's mainstream Israel organization. Through educational programs and political activism, AMI promotes support and understanding of Israel and its people.

Union of Progressive Zionists promotes progressive social and political issues and peace initiatives. The group also co-sponsors dialogue and discussion with other student groups on campus.

U-M Hillel's **birthright israel** trip provides an opportunity for an exhilarating free 10-day visit to Israel for students 18–26.

JEWISH EDUCATION

Hillel's **ZiG:** New Perspectives on Jewish Learning offers both traditional and non-traditional opportunities to connect to Jewish tradition with courses in Torah study, basic Judaism, Talmud, and Hebrew, as well as yoga, Jewish cooking, and more. The classes are designed to meet the needs of full-time students and working people who have limited time but want the opportunity for continued Jewish learning.

Shulchan Ivrit provides a weekly opportunity for students of all levels of proficiency to speak Hebrew together.

RELIGIOUS LIFE

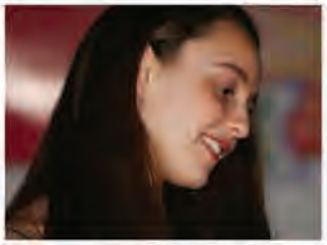
Hillel offers a variety of religious services and groups including the Reform Havurah, a creative, musically-oriented Friday night service; the Conservative Minyan, with vibrant egalitarian services, the Orthodox Minyan, which draws its membership from the community as well as from university faculty and students, and Shalvah, an independent and spirited Carlbach service. The Orthodox Minyan holds daily services in addition to Shabbat and holiday services.

OTHER PROGRAMS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Kol HaKavod is U-M Hillel's a cappella singing group. The ensemble performs a varied repertoire of close harmonies in English, Hebrew and Ladino, with music taken from Jewish liturgical and historical sources, Israeli folk songs and translated popular tunes.

Hillel's **Major Events Committee** brings to campus speakers and personalities who challenge the way students think about the issues of the day such as Dr. Ruth, Kurt Vonnegut, Oliver Stone and Jack Kevorkian. Revenues from this annual major event go to a charitable cause.

SHOUT, Students Honoring Outstanding University Teaching, conducts a campus-wide nomination process in order to select the year's recipient of the Golden Apple Award. The winning U-M teacher, in addition to receiving a Golden Apple trophy and a cash prize, delivers his or her ideal "last lecture." The Golden Apple



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Award is sponsored by Hillel and Apple Computer Inc. and is co-sponsored by more twenty U-M academic units and student groups.

Consider Magazine is a publication presenting different viewpoints on a variety of issues, both local and international. It is available in racks at Hillel and in most major university buildings.

Volunteers in Action is a social action group that works in soup kitchens and on projects for the homeless, children and the elderly. It often collaborates with other community groups.

JGrad: The Jewish Graduate student program is made up of six groups: JLSA (Jewish Law Students Association), RJSA (Ross Jewish Students Association), OJSW (Organization of Jewish Social Workers), JeMSA (Jewish Medical Student Associaiton), JePSA (Jewish Public Policy Student Association), and JAGS (Jewish Association of Graduate Students). These groups meet monthly for Shabbat dinners and other social events, offering a setting for older students to meet their peers.

Ahava, the Jewish Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay, Transgender and Friends Collective, offers a relaxed atmosphere for gay people of diverse Jewish backgrounds. It meets regularly for Shabbat potluck dinners, speakers, holidays and other occasions.

The Conference on the Holocaust Holocaust is a year-long series of events planned by students designed to present a cross-

section of scholarly, personal, historical and theological perspectives on the Holocaust.

Jewish Greek Council brings together Jewish students who are members of sororities and fraternities. The Forum sponsors social action projects and hosts parties.

The Intramural Sports Program fields a broad range of teams that compete in the U-M's intramural sports program. These teams compete in soccer, football, volleyball, softball, floor hockey, and ice hockey in which Hillel has won the campus championship twice in the past three years.

Sarah's Kitchen, also called "Hillel's Café," serves gourmet lunches and dinners Sunday-Friday during the academic year. U-M students on board contract in a residence hall can use their "Blue Bucks" to pay for meals, and anyone can eat at Hillel on a walk-in basis. Friday night Shabbat dinners are available to U-M students at no charge.

The Jewish Penicillin Hotline (iwantsoup@umich.edu) delivers kosher chicken soup with matzoh balls to any U-M student who is feeling ill or stressed.

The Jewish Women's Forum explores women's roles in Judaism, offering study groups, speakers, Rosh Hodesh celebrations and a women's seder.

Jewish Perspectives on Globalization is a group that helps provide Jewish students with hands-on experience in *tikkum olam* (repair of the world). Past JPOG groups have been involved in service projects in Uruguay, Argentina, and the Ukraine and Nicaragua, as well as Hurricane Katrina relief work in the Gulf Coast.

We could have told you about all the concerts, sports events, lectures, publications, free trips to Israel, theater productions, gourmet lunches and dinners, social justice projects, alternative spring break trips to South America and great parties...

...but we only have one page.

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U-M CHABAD HOUSE STUDENT CENTER

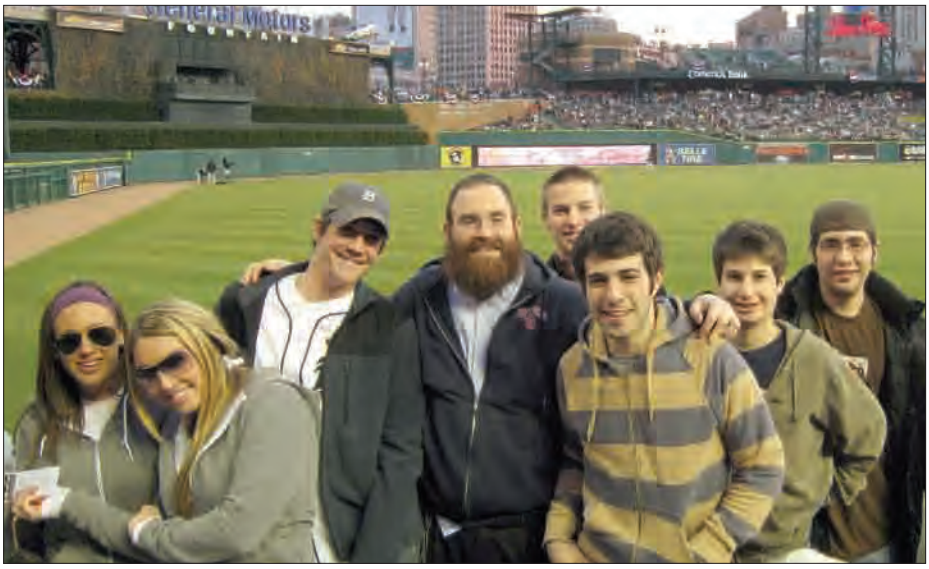
715 Hill Street 48104
734-99-LEARN (995-3276)
www.jewmich.com
Rabbi Alter and Chanchi Goldstein, directors

Chabad House is a home-away-from home for the thousands of Jewish students at the University of Michigan. Chabad serves the needs of students on a social, educational and spiritual level. At Chabad, all students are welcome, regardless of background, affiliation, and level of observance.

Tradition: At Chabad, students have the ability to discover the warmth and beauty of their heritage, and learn to apply the timeless Jewish principle of Ahavat Israel (love of one's fellow Jew)—at their own pace.

Community: The directors believe that family and community are vital keys to character building, and so open their home to students, helping inspire them with a respect for family values and a deep meaningful concern for the land of Israel.

Future: Chabad believes that Jewish education and meaningful experiences are the grass-roots method to fighting the problems of indifference, apathy and assimilation that face our community today. Chabad's programming is geared towards the belief that for there to be a Jewish tomorrow, students need to have a Jewish today



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U-M CENTER FOR MIDDLE EASTERN AND NORTH AFRICAN STUDIES

Suite 2607, School of Social Work
1080 S. University 48109
tel: 764-0350
email: CMENAS@umich.edu
website: www.umich.edu/~iinetcmenas

The Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies undergraduate and master's degree programs offer an interdisciplinary understanding of the modern area. They are intended to provide broad area and language training for students with either academic or professional interests. For those who have received training in fields such as journalism, business administration, law, library science, social work, public health and teaching, the program provides an opportunity to gain a strong background in the cultures and languages of the modern Middle East. Public lectures, film series, conferences, symposia and teacher workshops are offered regularly. Call or email to receive a weekly email message, announcing Middle Eastern events being held on campus. Visit the website for information on Middle East-related fellowships, conferences, jobs and more.

U-M DIVISION OF HEBREW & JEWISH CULTURAL STUDIES

Department of Near Eastern Studies
4111 Thayer Academic Building
202 South Thayer 48104-1608
tel: 764-0314
fax: 936-2679
email: cinq@umich.edu
website: www.umich.edu/~neareast
Gary Beckman, chair

Hebrew and Jewish Cultural Studies is a division of the department of Near Eastern Studies at the University of Michigan that offers classes and lectures. Undergraduate and graduate courses are offered in literature, culture and language, from ancient to modern. Examples of courses include Hebrew (all levels), Israeli Culture and Society, Perspectives on the Holocaust, Jewish Mysticism, Ancient Jewish History, Rabbinic Literature and Contemporary Israeli Literature. Hebrew classes are taught by native speakers.

In addition, faculty and visitors give talks during the academic year to which the community is invited. Contact the department to get on the lecture mailing list.

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U-M JUDAICA COLLECTION

111-J Hatcher Graduate Library North
tel: 936-2367
fax: 763-6743
website: www.lib.umich.edu/rrs/ egertel
Elliot H. Gertel, Irving M. Hermelin
Curator of Judaica

The Judaic holdings of the U-M Graduate Library are part of the Near East Division of Area Programs. The collection includes some 50,000 titles in Hebrew and Yiddish. Western-language Judaica holdings number approximately 40,000. Annually, the library adds approximately 1,000 Hebrew and Yiddish titles to the collection and 1,500 titles relevant to Jewish studies in western languages. The Judaica/Hebraica unit of the Division serves faculty and graduate students, as well as members of the local community in reference assistance. The staff also selects and acquires materials in all languages in Jewish studies for the library.

U-M JEAN AND SAMUEL FRANKEL CENTER FOR JUDAIC STUDIES

2111 Thayer Building
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tel: (734) 763-9047
fax: (734) 936-2186
email: JudaicStudies@umich.edu
website: www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic/
Deborah Dash Moore, director

Since 1970 Jewish Studies at the University of Michigan has thrived as an interdisciplinary endeavor drawing on the rich resources of a diverse faculty, educating undergraduate and graduate

students, and engaging the community. The Frankel Center for Judaic Studies has become an international leader with faculty integrated in top-tier departments throughout the University of Michigan's Ann Arbor campus. The Center offers

students opportunities for in depth study of modern Jewish literatures and cultures, Hebrew and Yiddish languages, Rabbinics, law, politics, and Jewish history from the ancient to modern eras. Students benefit from the academic excellence of faculty with strengths extending from the study of ancient Jewish law to the role of Yiddish in the modern world.

The inauguration of the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies in 2007 has made the University of Michigan a premiere site for Jewish studies in the United States. The Institute brings fourteen of the world's leading scholars from a variety of disciplines to Ann Arbor for an academic year. While at Michigan, these Institute Fellows share their research with the local community through public presentations and lectures.

The Frankel Center also sponsors numerous lectures, conferences, exhibits and other events throughout the academic year, including two high-profile annual programs: the Louis and Helen Padnos Lecture in Judaic Studies and the David W. Belin Lecture in American Jewish Affairs. All events are typically free and open to the general public.

education

BETH ISRAEL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

See Congregations, Beth Israel Congregation

HEBREW DAY SCHOOL

2937 Birch Hollow Drive 48108
tel: 971-4633
fax: 971-6204
website: www.hdsaa.org
Dina Shtull, head of school
Pamela Ramseyer, board president

The Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor (HDS) is a private elementary school, with an academic curriculum that follows the state and national standards. It serves children from the entire spectrum of Jewish expressions. The school scores in the 97th percentile and above on standardized tests in language arts and math. HDS also offers a state-of the-art computer lab, instruction in visual arts, physical education that stresses team work, a

music program that includes instrumental training in the upper grades, a public speaking and performance curriculum, and an immersion second language program beginning in the first grade for both modern and Biblical Hebrew. A rich Jewish and American heritage is experienced through plays, musical productions, and joyous holiday celebrations. Monthly themes relate to ethical behavior, civic responsibility, and tolerance, and are supported by community service projects. The teaching staff members differentiate to meet the needs of each and every student. The staff is enhanced with learning and behavioral specialists. The school atmosphere is warm, caring, and family oriented.

2007-2008:
A Year of National Awards for Hebrew Day School

During this past academic year, Hebrew Day School received numerous national awards. Jennifer Rosenberg, co-gan teacher, received the national Grinspoon-Steinhardt Award for Excellence in Jewish Education given to outstanding classroom educators nominated by their community. Rosenberg was chosen to represent the 76 recognized teachers from all over north America by speaking at the award ceremony held at the General Assembly in Atlanta, November 2007.

Fourth grader, Eva Kramer Rosenfeld, was one of four runners-up in a writing contest sponsored by Storyworks, a language arts magazine distributed nationally by Scholastic, Inc. to 400,000 children. Eva's entry, a character description of Betsy Baker, was among 7000 entries. Eva's photo, along with her illustration of her character, appeared in the magazine.

PEJE (Partners for Excellence In Jewish Education), a collaborative initiative of major philanthropic donors whose goal is to strengthen the day school movement, awarded Hebrew Day School with three awards of excellence for marketing materials. HDS won awards in three different categories: technology (30th anniversary movie), community communication (newsletter), and student recruitment (ad series). While 86 schools were recognized for marketing initiatives, HDS was one of nine schools who received three or more marketing awards, and it was the smallest school to win in multiple categories.

PEJE and the Jewish Funders Network partnered this year in granting MATCH awards, matching funds of $.50 cents to the dollar for new major gifts to Jewish day schools. HDS received a "MATCH" gift, due to the philanthropic generosity of Corliss Rosenberg, grandparent of first grader Lily Rosenberg.

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JEWISH CULTURAL SCHOOL

See Congregations, Jewish Cultural Society

JLI - JEWISH LEARNING INSTITUTE

Chabad House, 715 Hill Street 48104
tel: 99-LEARN (995-3276)
Rabbi Aharon and Esther Goldstein

Presented in synchrony in 350 cities nationwide and around the world, Jewish Learning Institute classes are presented locally by specially trained educators, including Ann Arbor Chabad House Rabbi Aharon Goldstein. Since its inception in 1998, JLI programs have been attended by nearly 40,000 people, and hundreds of thousands of others join in electronically through JLI on-line message boards and Internet based channels. Over 80 people in Ann Arbor have participated in the five JLI classes offered since 2006. An additional three classes will be held in the next 12 months, with two sessions each per week. This increase is in response to the high demand and participant growth that JLI experienced in 2007–2008.

KESHET ANN ARBOR

milka@umich.edu
Milka Eliav, program director

Keshet is an academic program for high school student, offering the opportunity to take Hebrew classes to fulfill the Foreign Language requirement, and receive high school credit as if it was any other high school class at their school. At Keshet, students meet twice a week for a total of four hours and study Modern Hebrew with professional language instructors, some of which are also U-M lecturers. Classes are small, allowing teachers to focus on their students' progress and lessons are dynamic and communicative.

As with other academic high school courses, students are expected to complete homework, take quizzes, exams, and occasionally prepare class presentations. Attendance and participation are key. Class material is level appropriate and naturally contains cultural components such as Israeli movies, songs, newspapers and more, to make the language learning experience wholesome and well rounded. Keshet offers four levels of Hebrew, from beginners to advanced, and students come from all walks of the Ann Arbor community.

Not all Keshet students take it for credit; some are there for their love of the language and their sincere interest in learning how to communicate in Hebrew. These driven teens are an integral part of classes; they attend regularly, take the exams and participate in other Keshet activities. Keshet is proud to have such motivated students and to be a part of their busy schedules.

Keshet is recognized by the Ann Arbor Public School Community Resource (CR) department, a unique system that lets high school students take a class not offered in their school, and get credit for it. Keshet fulfills CR requirements and maintains close contact with the CR monitor throughout the year.

All classes meet on Monday nights (6:30-8:30 pm), while the other meeting day is determined in September by each teacher and their students. Monday nights are pizza night, and students are invited to come earlier (6 p.m.) and enjoy social time with their peers. Keshet follows the Ann Arbor Public Schools calendar as well as the Jewish calendar, and commemorates major Israeli events such as Yitzhak Rabin's Memorial Day, Israel's Independence Day, and more.

Classrooms for Keshet are provided by both Beth Israel Congregation and Temple Beth Emeth; Keshet thankfully acknowledges the educational cooperation and support of these two synagogues and their educational directors. Keshet is funded by a grant from the Jewish Federation, and supported by donations from parents, as well as by gifts from generous members in the community who care about quality Hebrew instruction. Co-sponsors include Beth Israel Religious School, Temple Beth Emeth Religious School, the Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan, the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah, and the Jewish Cultural Society.

For more information go to www.jewishannarbor.org and click on "Keshet Ann Arbor", or contact Milka Eliav at milka@umich.edu.

RECONSTRUCTIONIST HAVURAH RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

See Congregations, Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah

TEMPLE BETH EMETH RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

See Congregations, Temple Beth Emeth

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T.E.A.C.H. (TORAH EDUCATION AT CHABAD HOUSE)

Chabad House, 715 Hill Street 48104
tel: 99-LEARN (995-3276)
Rabbi Aharon and Esther Goldstein

Classes offered at Chabad House cover the spectrum from basic Hebrew reading and Talmud study groups to Chassidic and Jewish mysticism. All classes are open to all Jews, regardless of their affiliation or background. An extensive library is available with classic and modern references to complement what is taught. The current class list includes: basic Hebrew reading (individual or small group instruction), prayers and their meanings, the Jewish way of prayer and the organization of the *siddur* (prayer book), Talmud, Chumash (the Five Books of Moses), Rashi (the 12th-century Torah commentator), Chassidic Jewish mysticism and its application to daily Jewish life in the 20th century, The Ethics of Our Fathers, The Shulchan Aruch, and Halachah (code of Jewish law).

Chabad House offers pre-bar/bat mitzvah classes for children ages 1013. Students preparing for bar or bat mitzvah receive instruction from Rabbi Zalman or Shternie Zweibel. Private tutorial classes are also offered to adults to learn the specifics of Torah.

T.E.P. (TORAH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM)

Chabad House, 715 Hill Street 48104
tel: 99-LEARN (995-3276)
Esther Goldstein

The program for youth 5-14 years old, explores the world of Jewish values, customs and texts. The children learn Hebrew reading and writing, the core prayers of Jewish tradition, and study Jewish holidays and history. Advanced students also study the Torah commentary of Rashi, one of Judaisms greatest teachers.

The goal of TEP is not only to teach Hebrew as a language, but also to teach whats behind the language and the joy of Judaism. Three levels are offered: beginner, intermediate and advanced. Classes meet on Sundays and Wednesdays.

JUDAIC CLASSICS LIBRARY AND BAR ILAN UNIVERSITY GLOBAL JEWISH DATABASE (RESPONSA PROJECT)

Chabad House, 715 Hill Street 48104
tel: 99-LEARN (995-3276)

Chabad House provides access to these two milestones in computerized Judaic reference and text tools on CD-ROM. The Judaic Classics Library answers questions about the Tanach (Five Books of Moses, Prophets and Scriptures), the Babylonian Talmud and Rashis commentaries on both the Talmud and the Torah. The Global Jewish Database Project includes texts such as the Jerusalem Bible, Maimonides, the Code of Jewish Law and 253 books of Responsa (Rabbinic commentaries and answers to inquiries) covering a period of over 1,000 years.

JEWISH EDUCATORS COUNCIL OF ANN ARBOR

tel: 971-0990
Noreen DeYoung, chair

The Jewish Educators Council was organized to provide Ann Arbor Jewish educators with opportunities to discuss issues of mutual concern, improve their skills and knowledge in areas of Jewish education and collaborate on programming options for teachers and students. The council consists of the directors of Beth Israel Congregation Religious School, the Hebrew Day School, the JCC Early Childhood Center, the Jewish Cultural School, the Reconstructionist Havurah, Keshet Ann Arbor and Temple Beth Emeth Religious School.

The council sponsors opportunities for teacher training on the local level during the school year and promotes participation in regional and national teacher training conferences, such as those sponsored by the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education (CAJE). It also sponsors guest speakers and events for local students to learn together. The Jewish Educators Council is funded by the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor and participating organizations.

youth activities

BAT MITZVAH CLUB

Chabad House
715 Hill Street 48104
tel: 994-9832
Shternie Zwiebel

The Bat Mitzvah Club offers young women ages 12-15 an opportunity to get together on a monthly basis. The club includes Torah study, social events, real, live chat sessions and baking traditional Jewish food.

BETH ISRAEL YOUTH PROGRAMS

See Congregations, Beth Israel Congregation

B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH ORGANIZATION/ ECHAD CHAPTER

tel: 663-2044
Alex Perlman, immediate past president
Michelle Stern-Samberg, advisor
Eric Adelman, regional director

B'nai B'rith Youth Organization (BBYO) is an independent, non-affiliated Jewish youth organization for teens of all Jewish backgrounds. Its program covers six areas: community service, recreation, social action, Jewish heritage, sisterhood/brotherhood, and creativity. These activities provide the structure through which Washtenaw County Jewish teens meet one another as well as other Jewish teens in Michigan and Windsor, Ontario. The Ann Arbor chapter serves grades 9-12 and recruits eighth graders in March

The chapter has meetings and programs at least once a month. There are often joint programs with chapters from the metro-Detroit area. Chapter activities are complemented by regional and national conclaves and conventions, as well as summer leadership and Judaism camps and a variety of trips to Israel, Bulgaria, and around the USA. Every even year, BBYO sponsors participation in the March of the Living program in Poland and Israel.

BBYO also sponsors www.b-linked.org, an online community that allows Jewish teens to meet other Jewish teens with common interests from anywhere in the world. B-Linked integrates the Princeton Review of Colleges and Universities with the Hillel Foundation database of Jewish life on campus. The Michigan BBYO Chapter Service Center is located in the West Bloomfield Jewish Community Center, (248) 788-0700. For more information, see www.bbyo.org or contact a member of Echad.

CAMP GAN ISRAEL

tel: 994-9832
www.mycampganisrael.com
Shternie Zwiebel, director

Camp Gan Israel is one of the largest and fastest growing networks of Jewish day camps in the world. The Ann Arbor camp was established ten years ago with the

vision of a professionally managed camp that focuses on the individual needs of each child. Camp Gan Israel runs for seven weeks in the summer.

Camp Gan Israel is dedicated to enriching the lives of Jewish children from diverse backgrounds and affiliations. CGI of Ann Arbor has many custom-tailored activities, both classic and innovative, allowing campers to experience summer the way it should be: exciting, relaxing, eye-opening and forever a source of childhood's best memories.

Counselors are chosen for their personal warmth and ability to understand and care for each child as an individual. Counselors have prior camp experience and are well trained in safety. The camp's mission is to seamlessly create a dream summer of arts, athletics, adventure and friendship, all within a Jewish framework.

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Camp Gan Israel is for children ages 3-13 with two separate divisions:

1. The Tiny Tots Program for ages 3 to 4 years. The Tiny Tots are offered special activities each week such as yoga, science, sports, weekly field trips, swimming and lots more. There are many creative activities, including challah-baking, art and woodwork, as well as creative movement and music. There is a very low camper-to-counselor ratio, which enables each child to receive extra and individualized attention.
2. For Ages 5 (going into kindergarten) to 13 years The program includes dance, woodworking, art, tennis, a science program, nature, origami, martial arts, yoga, chess, nature and sports. Campers go swimming three days a week and on field trips two days a week.

There is a camp theme each year on which all activities center, and it is emphasized that every child, irrespective of their level of Jewish observance, becomes a part of the Gan Israel family.

Camp Gan Israel is fully licensed by the State of Michigan. Camp Gan Israel is conveniently located at Clonlara School, 1289 Jewett Road.

GAN YELADIM ENRICHMENT

Chabad House, 715 Hill Street 48104
tel: 99-LEARN (995-3276)
email: esther@jewmich.com
Esther Goldstein

At Gan Yeladim children ages 2-5 years are welcomed. The Gan Yleadim meet on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 1-4 p.m.. At Gan Yeladim each child is encouraged to make choices with respect towards him/herself, others and his/her surroundings.

Group leaders seek to nourish each child's heart and mind as their cognitive, social, emotional and physical skills are developed, so that each child will be a well-rounded person capable of solving problems and adapting to new situations. Children are educated in a creative, supportive, and warm Jewish environment, so that each child will not only learn about life as a Jew, but will learn to love it too!

Gan Yeladim Playgroup seeks to create a stimulating and enriching educational environment for each and every child. Group leaders are devoted to helping children learn socialization skills, build-

ing their self-confidence and teaching them the about Jewish values and rituals through songs, stories and arts and crafts. In addition, they seek to ignite a spark in each child to lay claim to his Jewish heritage and commit him or her to a lifetime passion for Jewish learning.

HABONIM DROR-KEN PARDES

3359 Tacoma Circle 48108
tel: 971-1147
email: Ronsussman@aol.com
Ron Sussman, local registrar
tel: 800-55-TAVOR
email: CampTavor@aol.com
website: camptavor.org
Shelley Goldwater, executive director
Mike Rocklin, assistant director

Habonim Dror is an international youth organization. The local chapter, Ken Pardes, offers activities for all Jewish kids ages 9–18. During the school year Ken Pardes has events at least once a month. This summer, over 50 local kids in grades 4–10 attended Habonim's summer programming at Camp Tavor and in Israel. Midwest's Habonim camp, is located in Three Rivers, Michigan. Camp Tavor offers 1, 2, 3, and 4 week sessions. In the eleventh grade, campers have the opportunity to join their friends in the national movement for a summer in Israel. Twelfth-graders return to camp as counselors-in-training. All counselors are college-aged students with a mix of mature, young adult Israeli staff. There are also regional retreats with Habonim chapters from around the Midwest.

JCC YOUTH PROGRAMMING, MACCABI YOUTH GAMES, CAMP RAANANA

See Community Organizations, Jewish Community Center

TEMPLE BETH EMETH YOUTH GROUPS

See Congregations, Temple Beth Emeth

YOUNG JUDAEA

tel: 995-5569
Amy Hamermash, Ann Arbor Hadassah Young Judaea chair

Young Judaea is the peer-led, Zionist youth movement of Hadassah that aims to provide a positive Jewish experience through hands-on learning and fun. There are three divisions: Ofarim (grades 3–5), Tsofim (grades 6–7) and Bogrim (grades 8–12). In Ann Arbor, meetings are held at the JCC or in members' homes. Regional conventions for all levels are held during the school year. Summer programs include: Camp Young Judaea in Waupaca, Wisconsin, for grades 3–9, Camp Tel Yehudah in Barryville, New York, for grades 9–12, and summer programs in Israel for high schoolers. There are also programs in Israel for high school grads, college juniors and young adults.

WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

washtenawjewishnews.org

The Washtenaw Jewish News website is up and running. Advertisers and those wanting to submit articles, photos and letters to the editor can now access all the information they need at washtenawjewishnews.org. Created by former *WJN* staff person Emily Eisbruch and maintained by Gray Ayer, the site also has links to many Jewish organizations in Ann Arbor.

Also available on the website are a PDF file of the most recent publication, the annual *Guide to Jewish Life* and copies of past newspapers starting with the March 2007 edition. All archives can be viewed online or downloaded to your computer.

Web and domain services for the *WJN* website are provided by Huron Valley Community Network.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT

6735 Telegraph Road, Suite 201
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48301
tel: (248) 642-5393
website:www.jewishcommunitycouncil.org

The Jewish Community Council links the Jewish and non-Jewish communities. It unifies and mobilizes the community around high-priority domestic and international concerns and deals with public officials and the media on major issues.

JEWISH VOCATIONAL SERVICE

29699 Southfield Road
Southfield, Michigan 48076
tel: (248) 559-5000
fax: 248-559-0773
website: www.jvsdet.org

The Jewish Vocational Service (JVS) provides a comprehensive and integrated vocational service program, including job placement, career and educational counseling, rehabilitation services and assistance in securing funding for education. Additionally, JVS provides specialized services for senior adults, including adult day care, and outreach for those isolated from the community.

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTERS OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT

D. Dan & Betty Kahn Building
Eugene & Marcia Applebaum
Jewish Community Campus
6600 West Maple Road
West Bloomfield, Michigan 48322
tel: (248) 661-1000

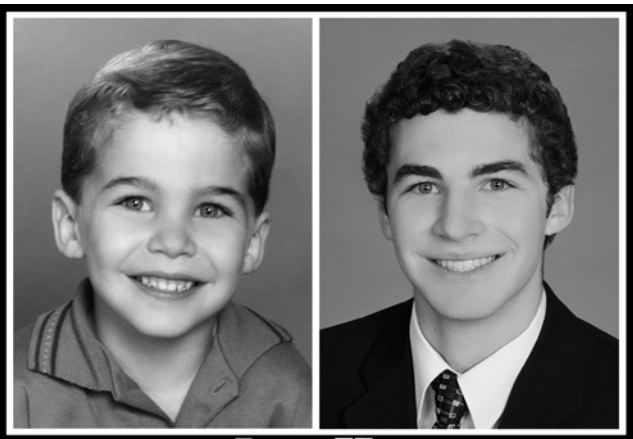
Jimmy Prentis Morris Building
15110 West Ten Mile Road
Oak Park, Michigan 48237
tel: (248) 967-4030
website: jccdet.org

The Jewish Community Centers of Metropolitan Detroit strive to enrich lives by conveying the importance of personal identity, social values and well-being within the Jewish and general community. This is accomplished through the offering of educational, cultural and recreational programs which strengthen the body and mind.

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE

6555 West Maple Rd.
West Bloomfield, 48322
tel: (248) 592-2300
email: jchapuseaux@jfsdetroit.org
website: jfsdetroit.org

Jewish Family Service specializes in individual, group and family treatment provided in a private and confidential setting. Services also include an addiction recovery program, crisis support, domestic violence intervention and prevention programs, and adoption services. To help older adults maintain their dignity and independence, JFS offers home care and respite care, Meals on Wheels and an escorted transportation service. Included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tel: (248) 553-2400
website: www.holocaustcenter.org

The Holocaust Memorial Center documents the history of the Holocaust and highlights the rich culture of a people that was destroyed. The museum is comprised of three parts: the Museum of European Jewish History, Holocaust, and the International Institute of the Righteous. The Center's research wing includes the Holocaust Memorial Center Library and the John J. Mames Oral History Collection. The Jewish community's central educational resource, the Federation's Alliance for Jewish Education, provides an array of services that enhance Jewish knowledge, identity and pride. The Alliance provides a support system for all congregational schools, nursery through grade 12, including teacher training and consultation and innovative curriculum development, and specialized assistance for children with special needs. Children with special needs attend weekly classes sponsored by the Alliance. In addition, Jewish Experiences for Families creates programs that help families strengthen their Jewish identity, including interfaith families, and single Jewish parents. The Alliance offers ongoing and one-time adult educational courses through the Lifelong Learning Classes and the Florence Melton Adult Mini School, and community-wide programming for teens. It is also home to the Teachers' Resource Center.

JEWISH FEDERATION OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT

6735 Telegraph Road
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48301
tel: (248) 642-4260
email: jfmd@jfmd.org
website: www.jfmd.org

The Federation, the central communal organization of the metropolitan Detroit Jewish community, plays a leadership role in identifying the needs of that community in partnership with its agencies. It mobilizes human and financial resources, engages in communal planning and allocation and advocates meeting the needs of families and individuals. The Federation seeks to further the relationship between the Jewish community and the community at large in the Metropolitan Detroit area.

Keeping kosher in Ann Arbor

By Marcie Greenfield

If you're keeping a kosher home in Washtenaw County, there are plenty of options. Hiller's and Trader Joe's are your best bet. Both offer a wide variety of kosher products and fresh kosher meat. Whole Foods, People's Food Co-op and Arbor Farms add to the abundance of vegetarian/kosher foods available locally.

Hiller's, a Michigan-owned grocery store with several locations around the Detroit metro area, has the largest selection of kosher goods, with sections in both the international and wine aisles, and the refrigerator and freezer cases. They offer fresh and frozen kosher beef, chicken and turkey. Sometimes you can even find frozen buffalo and duck. They also have the most extensive selection for Passover. Ask at the service desk if you don't see what you want because they may be able to order it.

Trader Joe's has a printed list of kosher products sold there (including a list detailing the kosher symbols on their packages). You can get the list at the store or on their website (traderjoes.com) under products/labels and lists. They usually stock most fresh chicken options (including recent additions of ground chicken and organic boneless breasts), turkey (ground and breast halves) and sometimes ribeye steak. They also carry a kosher cheddar cheese by Tillamook.

There also are plenty of vegetarian options (including cheeses without rennet) at the People's Food Coop, Whole Foods (they also have a list of kosher foods sold there and a small frozen kosher section) and Arbor Farms. Zingerman's Deli sells kosher-certified tuna, vinegars, honey, olive oil, chocolates, salt and several cheeses with vegetarian rennet. Monahans Seafood Market at Kerrytown Market is a great source for fresh fish.

For parties and holidays, Gordon's Food Service on Carpenter Rd. sells a huge box of Cohen's frozen appetizers. You can find kosher wine at many stores, including Hiller's, Whole Foods, Stadium Market (corner of Stadium and Packard) and Morgan and York on Packard. About 40 minutes away is a full-service kosher butcher (Harvard Kosher Meat) and bakery (Bake Station) in West Bloomfield and a kosher grocery store (One Stop Kosher), with a large selection of fresh meat and produce, in Oak Park.

To stay abreast of recent happenings in the kosher world, you can subscribe to Kosher-Gram, published by Va'ad Harabonim (Rabbinical Council) of Detroit. Call (248) 559-5005 to be put on the mailing list. Kashrut alerts also are posted on the Orthodox Union website, ou.org.

Chabad House provides classes and assistance to community members who are interested in kashering their kitchen. Call 995-3276 for details.

The following stores offer a wide variety of kosher foods:

- Arbor Farms, 2103 West Stadium Blvd.
- Hiller's Market, 3615 Washtenaw Ave.
- Monahan's Seafood Market, 407 North 5th Ave. (Kerrytown)
- People's Food Coop, 216 North 4th Ave.
- Trader Joe's, 2398 East Stadium Blvd.
- Whole Foods Market, 3135 Washtenaw Ave.

WJN mailing committe

Every month a group of dedicated seniors volunteer their time and energy to mailing out the *Washtenaw Jewish News*. Anywhere from 8-15 volunteers will show up each month and an hour later, over 3,500 newspapers have been labeled, sorted, and boxed, ready to be loaded into the van for transport to the post office.

Shown here are: Irwin Pollack, Doris Miller, Esther Rubin, Bob and Sophie Mordis. and Betty Hammond.

Advertisers

Active Living Lifestyles 37
Afternoon Delight 39
Amadeus Cafe/Patisserie 8
Amanda's Kitchen 11
Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah .. 5
Aunt Agatha's 55
Susan Ayer Photography 48
Ayse's Café 41
Bank of Ann Arbor 23
Barry Bagels 48
Beth Israel Congregation ..... front inside cover
Bivouac 56
Blue Nile 11
Barbara Boyk-Rust 15
Brit Tzedek V'Shalom 55
Camp Tavor 54
Campus Inn 25
Center for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery 10
Chabad of Ann Arbor 38
Chelsea Flower Shop 24
Childcare Solutions 38
Paula Christensen, Photographer 19
Dakota Laser Vision 6
Dragon's Lair Futons 58
Fawzi's Westgate Auto Repair 42
Food Art 56
Ilene Friedland, Reinhart Realtors 39
Gold Bond Cleaners 30
Great Lakes Cycling 54
Cantor Samuel Greenbaum; mohel 23
Hadassah 5
Hillel, University of Michigan 49
Hiller's Market 23
Carol Hoffer 19
iSoldIt 13
Jewish Community Center .. back inside cover
Jewish Cultural Society 40
Jewish Federation ..... back cover
Joe Cornell Entertainment 40
John Shultz 61
Josephson & Fink, LLP 30
Ken Lussenden Contracting 63
Keshet 26
Kindermusik 24
Kruz Photography 13
Lewis Jewelers 24
Monica Farris Linkner, attorney 60
Makielski's Berry Farm 20
Margolis Nursery 41
McLennan Landscape 51
Mediterrano/La Pia'zza/Carlyle 30
Merkel Carpet One 61
Michigan Theater 20
Midwest Travelers Health Service 10
Candy Mitchell, Surovell Realtors 18
Modern Mechanical 26
Moonwinks Café 50
Paper Station 8
Phil's Rugalah 52
Dennis Platte Graphic Design 15
Michal Porath; Surovell Realtors 29
Quality Kosher Catering 52
R.D. Kleinschmidt, Inc. 26
Ride Boutique 12
Anita Rubin-Meiller 13
Select Ride 38
Selo/Shevel Gallery 29
Christopher Sevick, PLC 40
Simply Scrumptious 51
Pam Sjo, Reinhart Realtors 8
StarTrax 50
Summers-Knoll School 58
Temple Beth Emeth 15
Treetown Vittles 52
Trusted Loving Care 37
United Bank and Trust 42
Vicki's Haircuts & Heavenly Metal 30
Village Apothecary 19
Vitosha Guest Haus 48
Miriam Weininger; Surovell Realtors 6
Zingerman's 18

The cover

There are many ways to define community. One way is by the quality and commitment to excellence of its professional staff. This year's cover for the Guide to Jewish Life focuses on those who dedicate themselves to careers in Jewish organizations. These Jewish professionals are engaged in a variety of communal, educational and social services devoted to strengthening Jewish life and community locally, in Israel and throughout the Diaspora. They work to keep our community vibrant and relevant. Shown are representatives from: Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan, Beth Israel Congregation, Chabad House, Eastern Michigan University Hillel, Hebrew Day School, the Jewish Community Center of Washtenaw County, Jewish Cultural Society, Jewish Family Services, the Jewish Federation of Ann Arbor, Keshet, Pardes Hannah, Temple Beth Emeth, the University of Michigan Hillel, and the *Washtenaw Jewish News.*

Photography and cover design by Susan Ayer and Dennis Platte.

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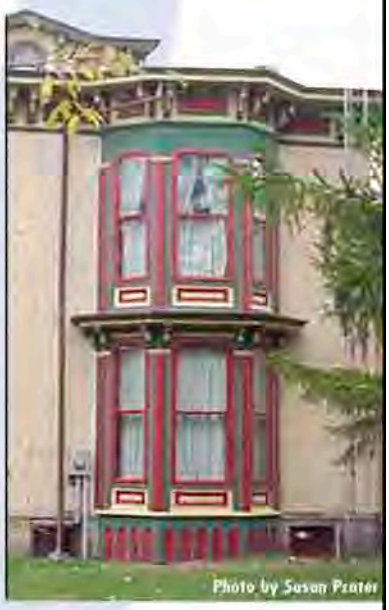

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Organization contact information

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan
tel: 994-5822
rabbi@annarborminyan.org
www.annarborminyan.org

Beth Israel Congregation
tel: 665-9897; fax: 665-2733
office@bethisrael-aa.org
www.BethIsrael-AA.org

B'nai B'rith Youth Organization
tel: 663-2044

B'rit Tzedek V'Shalom
tel: 975-9045
annarbor@btvshalom.org

Congregation Chabad
tel: 995-3276; fax: 996-2471
chabad@jewmich.com

Chaverim B'Shirim
tel: 663-1978
mkrimm@umich.edu

Federation of Ann Arbor
tel: 677-0100; fax: 677-0109
info@jewishannarbor.org
www.jewishannarbor.org

Habonim Dror
tel: 971-1147, (800) 55-TAVOR

Hadassah
tel: 668-6821
yoshka1942!aol.com

Hebrew Day School
tel: 971-4633; fax: 971-6204
www.hdsaa.org

Hillel, EMU
tel: 482-0456; fax: 482-0440
hillel@emich.edu
www.Hillel-Emu.org

Hillel, U-M
tel: 769-0500; fax: 769-1934
umhillel@umich.edu
www.umhillel.org

Interfaith Hospitality Network
tel: 822-0220
jeckel@alphahouse-ihn.org

Israeli Dancing
tel: 971-0990
a2rikud@gmail.com

JCC Yiddish Group
tel: 761-2765

Jewish Ann Arbor Singles
tel: 483-8352
J_aa_s@yahoo.com

Jewish Community Center of Washtenaw County
tel: 971-0990; fax: 677-0109
lesliebash@jccfed.org
www.JCCAnnArbor.org

Jewish Community Foundation of Washtenaw County
tel: 677-0100; fax: 677-0109

Jewish Cultural Society/School
tel: 975-9872
jcs@jccfed.org
www.jewishculturalsociety.org

Jewish Educators Council
tel: 971-0990

Jewish Family Services
tel: 769-0209; fax: 769-0224
info@jfsannarbor.org
www.jfsannarbor.org

Jewish Professionals of Ann Arbor
mirasussman@hotmail.com

Keshet Ann Arbor
milka@umich.edu

Men's Club, Beth Israel Congregation
tel: 665-9897
office@BethIsrael-AA.org

Michigan Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life
tel: (248) 642-5393
mi-coejl@jfmd.org

Mikvah Israel
tel: 769-3078

Mosaic Outdoor Club of Michigan
michigan@mosaicoutdoor.org
www.mosaicoutdoor.org/michigan

ORT (Ann Arbor Chapter)
tel: 665-1452
www.ortamerica.org

Pardes Hannah
tel: 761-5324
alephdoc@yahoo.com
www. pardeshannah.org

Raoul Wallenberg Endowment Committee
tel: 647-2655

Reconstructionist Havurah
tel: 445-1910
info@aarecon.org
www.aarecon.org

Rosh Chodesh Group
tel: 769-3078

Sisterhood, Temple Beth Emeth
tel: 665-4744
hillaryh@ixnetcom.com

SPICE
tel: 971-0990
Merrill@jfsannarbor.org

Temple Beth Emeth
tel: 665-4744
fax: 665-9237
TBE@templebethemeth.org
www.templebethemeth.org

Temple Beth Emeth Brotherhood
tel: 327-9149
email: daddywaggs@comcast.net

U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies
tel: 764-0350
cmenas@umich.edu
www.umich.edu/~iinet cmenas

U-M Division of Hebrew and Jewish Cultural Studies
tel: 764-0314; fax: 936-2679
cinq@umich.edu
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tel: 764-5392; fax: 763-3372
drachler.program@umich.edu
www.ssw.umich.edu/ drachler

Washtenaw Jewish News
tel: 971-1800; fax: 971-1801
wjn.editor@gmail.com
www.washtenawjewishnews.org

Women's League, Beth Israel
tel: 665-9897
gerberfl@comcast.net

Women's Rosh Chodesh Group
tel: 769-3078

Yad Shoshana
tel: 994-9832

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